

GEOLOGICAL COMMENTS

1. Based on L. balmei Zone palynomorphs within the smaller of the two core chips supplied, Core 10 was cut in the Eastern View Coal Measures.
2. On these data, the Lower L. balmei Zone age-determinations proposed by Macphail (1987) for the interval 5860-5900 ft. are correct.
3. Kerogen extracts from both core chip samples were dominated by fine-small opaques with rare, mostly biodegraded, structured terrestrial organic matter. These and the abundance of very fine, white clays following treatment of the core material with HF are consistent with the very low yields of palynomorphs.

BIOSTRATIGRAPHY

Zone and age-determinations were made using criteria established for the Gippsland Basin by Stover & Partridge (1973) and subsequent, proprietary revisions (Partridge & Macphail, unpubl.).

Larger core chip from Core 10, Indeterminate.

This sample yielded single specimens of Podocarpidites and Matonisporites ornamentalis. The latter typically first appears in the Upper L. balmei Zone.

Smaller core chip from Core 10, L. balmei Zone.

This sample yielded single to several specimens of Tricolporites, Nothofagidites kaitangata and Haloragacidites harisii. The last species first appears in the Lower L. balmei Zone whilst N. kaitangata ranges no higher than the upper L. balmei Zone.

Although no weight can be given to the following observation in view of the very low yield, one of the Tricolporites pollen recovered is an undescribed sp. that is typically found in Upper L. balmei Zone palynofloras in the Gippsland Basin.

REFERENCES

- Macphail, M.K. (1987) Palynological analysis of cuttings samples from near Total Depth, Bass-2, Bass Basin. Report to The Shell Company of Australia, 17 December.
- Smith, G.C. (1985) Bass Basin geology and petroleum exploration. Second South-Eastern Australia Oil Exploration Symposium (ed. R.C. Glenie), PESA, Melbourne.
- Stover, L.E. & Partridge, A.D. (1973). Tertiary and Late Cretaceous spores and pollen from the Gippsland Basin, Australia. Proc. R. Soc. Vict., 85: 237-286.