

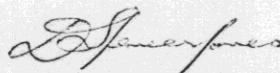
I appreciate that any attempt to correlate rocks by lithology alone is tenuous without adequate stratigraphic control. Red bed-type sediments only indicate that a particular sedimentary environment obtained at the time of deposition. However most geologists familiar with the stratigraphy of southeast Australia would probably assign a tentative Upper Devonian - Lower Carboniferous age to the samples from core No. 5.

These sediments in Victoria are particularly characteristic whether they are found within the Grampians Group, Avon River Group or in the three small areas of Upper Devonian Sediments (Merimbula Group equivalents) in Eastern Victoria.

I am sorry that I cannot give you a more positive age determination but with the exception of the conglomerate the sediments closely resemble in state of lithification, mineral composition and texture, rocks found within the Upper Devonian - Lower Carboniferous successions in Victoria.

I will arrange for the specimens to be returned by air freight.

Yours faithfully,



D. SPENCER-JONES
Director of Geological Survey.