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P.O. Box 488
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1st March 1984.

Dear Mr. Ellingsve,

Re: 7/8-3 Norwegian North Sea Well

Please find enclosed three copies of our Report No. 3049P/A, entitled
Conoco Norway Inc. 7/8-3 Norwegian North Sea Well: Biostratigraphy of
the Interval 210m-4320m T.D.

We would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this report
by signing one copy of the enclosed transmittal notice and returning
it to us as soon as possible.

It has been a pleasure working for you and we look forward to continuing
our association in the future.

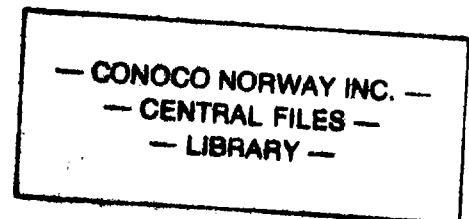
Yours sincerely,

Dick Neville

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Senior Palynologist

for and on behalf of
Robertson Research International Limited

Enc.



ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

REPORT NO. 3049P/A

CONOCO NORWAY INC.
7/8-3 NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA WELL:
BIOSTRATIGRAPHY OF THE INTERVAL 210m-4320m T.D.

by

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PROJECT NO: RRPS/834/A/10077

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February, 1984

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SUMMARY

1. The youngest sediments analysed are claystones with minor sandstones, which range in age from Pleistocene to Late - Middle Miocene and are assignable to the Nordland Group.
2. The Nordland Group rests conformably on the Hordaland Group, which ranges in age from Late - Middle Miocene to Early Eocene, and is composed of brown shales and claystones with traces of dolomite.
3. The Rogaland Group lies below the Hordaland Group; the contact between them is possibly unconformable. It consists of the Balder, Sele and Lista Formations which are respectively composed predominantly of grey silty and tuffaceous shales; grey laminated shales and grey shales with traces of limestone throughout.
4. The Montrose Group of Late to Early Palaeocene age is represented by the Maureen Formation which consists of calcareous claystones and limestones.
5. The Chalk Group which ranges in age from Early Palaeocene to Late Cretaceous, Cenomanian, consists mainly of limestone. There is an unconformity within the lower part and rocks of late Turonian age are absent.
6. The Cromer Knoll Group which conformably lies below the Chalk Group consists predominantly of limestones of Albian age which unconformably overlie a thin limestone of early Barremian - late Hauterivian age which in turn lie unconformably on deposits of early Valanginian age.
7. The oldest sediments of the Cromer Knoll Group range in age from early Valanginian to latest Ryazanian and comprise a sequence of shales, which conformably overlie the Boknfjord Group.

II

INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the results of the micropalaeontological, palynological, nannofloral and stratigraphical analyses which have been carried out on material received from the section 210m-4320m T.D. from the Conoco Norway Inc. 7/8-3 Norwegian North Sea Well under Project No. RRPS/834/A/10077.

The following analyses were carried out:

Lithology: 495 ditch cuttings, 53 sidewall core and 32 core samples from the entire section.

Micropalaeontology: 324 ditch cuttings and 26 sidewall core samples from the interval 210m-3607m.

Palynology: 23 ditch cuttings, 31 sidewall core and 11 core samples from the interval 3415m-4320m T.D.

Nannofossils: 11 ditch cuttings and 15 sidewall core samples from the interval 2864m-3550m.

The basic breakdown obtained by these analyses has already been communicated by telex and telephone and forms the framework of factual information on which this report is based. A summary of the sequence penetrated in this well can be seen on pages 5 and 6.

All rock colour references in this report conform to the "Rock-Color Chart" distributed by the Geological Society of America. The lithological descriptions of the sidewall cores can be seen in Appendix 1 whilst those of the core samples occur in Appendix 2.

It should be noted that the lithostratigraphic terminology is taken from Deegan and Scull 1977 and Olsen and Strass 1982. The stratigraphic significance of the Ryazanian - Albian dinocyst zones is summarised in Appendices 3 and 4.

The prepared samples and recorded information are now filed and curated in the confidential records section of these laboratories.

We wish to acknowledge the continued co-operation and assistance received from the various members of Conoco Norway Inc. with whom we have been associated during the course of this work.

Robertson Research staff involved in this study were:

Paul Frame	-	Cretaceous and Jurassic micropalaeontology
Bob Wynn Jones	-	Cainozoic micropalaeontology
Chris Mortimer	-	Nannofossils
Dick Neville	-	Palynology and Project Co-ordinator
Alison Shaw	-	Lithologies
Rosemary Titterton	-	Cretaceous and Jurassic micropalaeontology.

III

BIOSTRATIGRAPHIC SUCCESSION

<u>Age</u>	<u>Tops (in metres)</u> ^{K/S}
Pleistocene	210 (top not seen)
Pliocene	450
Late - Middle Miocene	800
Early Miocene	1380
Late Oligocene	1410
Early Oligocene - Middle? Eocene	2330
Middle - Early? Eocene	2520
Early Eocene	2690
-----?Unconformity-----	
Late Palaeocene	2716.50 (log)
Early Palaeocene	2864 (SWC)
	(latest Maastrichtian 3023.50 (log)
	(late Maastrichtian 3061
	(early Maastrichtian - late 3282 (SWC)
	(Campanian
Late Cretaceous	(early Campanian 3340
	(-----Unconformity-----
	(early Turonian 3348 (log)
	(Cenomanian 3367 (log)
	Continued.....

BIOSTRATIGRAPHIC SUCCESSION (Continued)

<u>Age</u>		<u>Tops(in metres)</u>
	(Albian	3393(log)
	(
	(----- Unconformity -----	
	(
Early Cretaceous	(early Barremian - late	3459(log)
	(Hauterivian	
	(
	(----- Unconformity -----	
	(
	(early Valanginian	3461(log)
	(
	(earliest Valanginian	3580
	(
	(latest Ryazanian	3601
Early Cretaceous - ?Late Jurassic	late Ryazanian - ?late Volgian	3638.50(log)
	-----?Unconformity-----	
	(late middle Volgian	3691
	(
	(-----Unconformity-----	
	(
Late Jurassic	(latest early Volgian	3723.50(log)
	(
	(early Volgian	3741.70(core)
	(
	(latest Kimmeridgian	3758.10(core)
	-----Unconformity-----	
Triassic		3767(log)
Middle - Early? Triassic	middle Anisian - ?Skythian	3972(SWC)
	-----?Unconformity-----	
Late Permian (Zechstein)		4237(log)-4320 T.D.

This breakdown has been achieved by the analysis of ditch cuttings, sidewall core, and core samples. Wireline logs were provided by the client.

IV

LITHOSTRATIGRAPHIC SUCCESSION

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Tops (in metres)</u>
Nordland Group	Pleistocene to Late - Middle Miocene	210(top not seen)
Hordaland Group	Late - Middle Miocene to Early Eocene	1310
Rogaland Group		
Balder Formation	Late Palaeocene	2716.50(log)
Sele Formation	Late Palaeocene	2757.50(log)
Lista Formation	Late Palaeocene	2830(log)
Montrose Group		
Maureen Formation	Late - Early Palaeocene	2854(log)
Chalk Group		
Ekofisk Formation	Early Palaeocene	2870(log)
Tor Formation	latest - late Maastrichtian	3023.50(log)
Hod Formation	late Maastrichtian - early Campanian	3275(log)
Plenus Marl Formation	early Turonian	3348(log)
Hydra Formation	Cenomanian	3367(log)
Cromer Knoll Group		
"Limestone Unit"	Albian	3393(log)
Valhall Formation	early Barremian - late Hauterivian to latest Ryazanian	3459(log)

Continued.

LITHOSTRATIGRAPHIC SUCCESSION (Continued)

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Tops (in metres)</u>
Boknfjord Group		
Kimmeridge Clay Formation	late Ryazanian - late middle Volgian	3638.50(log)
Vestland Group		
Ula Formation	latest early Volgian - latest Kimmeridgian	3723.50(log)
"Triassic Group"		
Skagerrak Formation	Triassic	3767(log)
Zechstein Group	Late Permian	4237(log)-4320 T.D.

LITHOSTRATIGRAPHY

The lithostratigraphic nomenclature used in this report is based on Deegan & Scull 1977 and Olsen and Strass 1982. Wireline logs were provided between 210m and 4261m, and all but one of the lithostratigraphic boundaries are based on log breaks.

LITHOSTRATIGRAPHIC UNITS

NORDLAND GROUP: 210m(top not seen)-1310m; Age: Pleistocene to Late - Middle Miocene.

This unit comprises a thick sequence of claystones with minor sandstones. The claystones are light olive grey to olive grey, locally sandy and weakly calcareous. Pyrite and shell fragments persist throughout, with traces of fine to coarse sand between 210m and 775m.

HORDALAND GROUP: 1310m-2716.50m(log); Age; Late - Middle Miocene to Early Eocene.

The upper boundary of this unit is based on the occurrence of glauconite in the ditch cuttings sample at 1310m, which may represent a regional hardground formed during the Middle Miocene. The characteristic brown shales and claystones of the Hordaland Group are recorded just below this depth, at 1340m. Traces of dolomite, representing stringers or concretions, are recognised below 1335m and are similarly typical of the Hordaland Group.

Brown and olive grey shales and claystones with dolomite and limestone stringers or concretions persist throughout this unit with traces of pyrite, calcite, siderite and shell fragments.

The basal section, between 2570m and 2716.50m(log) is lithologically distinctive. In this interval, greenish grey shales overlie greyish red, and waxy, greenish grey shales which contain traces of grey and white tuffaceous

shale. Pyrite, siderite and calcite are common accessories within this basal section.

ROGALAND GROUP: 2716.50m(log)-2854m(log); Age: Late Palaeocene.

Balder Formation: 2716.50m(log)-2757.50m(log).

This formation is delineated by a characteristic log signature and consists of shales which are moderately hard, subfissile, medium grey to dark greenish grey and greyish red to greenish grey, becoming medium grey to dark grey, locally silty and tuffaceous. Traces of pyrite, calcite and sphaerosiderite occur throughout.

Sele Formation: 2757.50m(log)-2830m(log).

The upper limit of this formation is marked by a log break corresponding to the occurrence in ditch cuttings samples of finely laminated shales. These shales are medium grey to dark grey and olive grey, and locally sandy with traces of greyish red shale between 2790m and 2800m.

Minor glauconitic limestone, fine grained sand and pyrite are recorded at the base of this unit.

Lista Formation: 2830m(log)-2854m(log).

The predominant lithology in this unit is shale, which is medium grey to olive grey and locally pyritic. Traces of limestone occur throughout this interval, consisting of thin stringers or concretions of pale brown, slightly argillaceous limestone between 2830m and 2845m, and white, brittle, locally sandy limestone at and below 2845m.

MONTROSE GROUP: 2854m(log)-2870m(log); Age: Late - Early Palaeocene.

Maureen Formation

The upper boundary of this unit is defined by a log break corresponding to the occurrence of calcareous claystones and limestones in ditch cuttings samples. The claystones are waxy, olive grey and micromicaceous, and the limestones are hard and white, locally sandy with chert.

CHALK GROUP: 2870m(log)-3393m(log); Age: Early Palaeocene - Late Cretaceous, Cenomanian.

Ekofisk Formation: 2870m(log)-3023.50m(log); Age: Early Palaeocene.

The predominant lithology within this formation is limestone which is moderately hard, white, and locally chalky. Chert is present below 2900m and the limestones are locally sandy below 2940m. Light olive grey dolomitic shales and dolomites are recorded between 2889m(log) and 2894.50m(log). Rare glauconitic sandstone occurs in the ditch cuttings sample at 2980m, within a sequence of white limestones which becomes slightly argillaceous and very light grey towards the base of the unit.

Tor Formation: 3023.50m(log)-3275m(log); Age: Late Cretaceous, latest to late Maastrichtian.

This formation comprises a thick sequence of limestones which are white to very light grey, and locally chalky. Traces of sand and chert occur within the limestones in the upper part of the unit, down to 3180m. Rare calcareous shales are recorded at 3210m, and calcite and pyrite occur as traces throughout.

Hod Formation: 3275m(log)-3348m(log); Age: Late Cretaceous, late Maastrichtian - early Campanian.

The predominant lithology in the upper part of the formation is limestone which is moderate orange pink to pale red, slightly argillaceous and locally pyritic. Minor quantities of white to very light grey limestones are present, and these limestones predominate below 3315m.

Plenus Marl Formation: 3348m(log)-3367m(log); Age: Late Cretaceous, early Turonian.

This formation comprises an upper unit of limestones and sandy claystones which are pale red to greyish red and light grey, locally sandy, glauconitic and micaceous. The basal part of the formation, between 3357.50m(log) and 3367m(log), comprises shales which are medium grey to dark grey and non-calcareous and locally olive grey, silty, sandy, glauconitic, micaceous and highly calcareous.

Hidra Formation: 3367m(log)-3393m(log); Age: Late Cretaceous, Cenomanian.

The limestones comprising this unit are crystalline, and pinkish grey to very light grey, becoming locally sandy and glauconitic towards the base of the formation.

CROMER KNOLL GROUP: 3393m(log)-3638.50m(log); Age: Early Cretaceous, Albian - latest Ryazanian.

"Limestone Unit": 3393m(log)-3459m(log); Age: Early Cretaceous, Albian.

The upper section of this unit consists predominantly of limestones which are white to greenish grey, glauconitic, sandy and locally coarsely crystalline. These limestones become increasingly sandy, glauconitic and argillaceous, and grade locally into calcareous sandstones.

Minor argillaceous sandstones at 3457m(SWC) are friable, greyish red, very fine to fine grained, silty, micaceous, argillaceous and calcareous.

Valhall Formation: 3459m(log)-3638.50m(log); Age: Early Cretaceous, early Barremian - late Hauterivian to latest Ryazanian.

A thin limestone is delineated between 3459m(log) and 3461m(log), representing sediments of early Barremian to late Hauterivian age.

The lower section of this formation, below 3461m(log), comprises a sequence of shales and dolomitic shales. These sediments are moderately hard, locally greyish red to dusky red, micromicaceous and non-calcareous, becoming medium grey to dark grey and olive grey, locally dolomitic and locally pyritic. Traces of fine sand are recorded below 3577m, and light brown, sideritic limestone stringers or concretions occur below 3616m.

BOKNEFJORD GROUP: 3638.50m(log)-3723.50m(log); Age: Late Jurassic, late Ryazanian - late middle Volgian.

Kimmeridge Clay Formation

This formation consists of shales which have a characteristic log signature, clearly delineating the upper boundary. The shales are subfissile, brownish black, micromicaceous and locally silty and calcareous. Traces of pyrite occur throughout and rare sand and glauconite are recorded at 3718m.

VESTLAND GROUP: 3723.50m(log)-3767m(log); Age: Late Jurassic, latest early Volgian - latest Kimmeridgian.

Ula Formation

This formation comprises sandstones which are olive grey to light grey and dark yellowish brown, very fine to medium grained, and glauconitic with shell debris and carbonaceous fragments. These sandstones are commonly oil stained, locally calcite cemented and locally argillaceous. Subordinate, brownish black, silty shales are indicated on wireline logs between 3726m(log) and 3730m(log).

"TRIASSIC GROUP": 3767m(log)-4237m(log); Age: Triassic

Skagerrak Formation

The upper boundary of this formation is based on a log break. The core piece at 3766m is considered to belong to this lithostratigraphic group, the depth discrepancy being due to the difference between drillers' and loggers' depths.

The predominant lithologies in this unit are sandstones and shales. The sandstones are friable to well cemented, pale red to moderate reddish brown, locally white to greenish grey, very fine to medium grained, locally highly micaceous and slightly argillaceous. The interbedded units of shales and claystones are slightly waxy, dark reddish brown to greyish red, locally light greenish grey to light grey, locally highly micaceous and sandy.

Subordinate dolomites and dolomitic shales are recorded between 3880m(log) and 3885m(log) and from 3930m(log) to 3956m(log). These sediments are light brown to light grey and crystalline, becoming medium grey, micaceous and locally silty.

Traces of anhydrite occur throughout in ditch cuttings samples and the sandstones are locally anhydritic (4169.70m (SWC)).

The claystones are calcareous, grading to argillaceous limestone in the sidewall core at 4233.20m.

ZECHSTEIN GROUP: 4237m(log)-4320m T.D.; Age: Late Permian.

The upper limit of this unit is defined by a sharp log break at 4237m, corresponding to the penetration of anhydrite. This lithotype is represented in ditch cuttings samples by traces only. Since wireline log information was not available below 4261m, lithological interpretations below this depth are based on ditch cuttings samples only. The predominant lithology below 4261m comprises dolomitic shales which are light to medium grey and locally micaceous, grading to argillaceous dolomite. Traces of anhydrite persist, and below 4302m the ditch cuttings samples contain red sand and shale, with traces of dolomite and anhydrite.

VI

BIOSTRATIGRAPHY

VI(1) CAINOZOIC

INTERVAL 210m-450m; PLEISTOCENE (top not seen)

Lithostratigraphic Unit:
Nordland Group (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The age of this interval is based on the following micropalaeontological criteria:

- the co-occurrence of representatives of the Elphidium incertum group and of the Nonion granosum/Protelphidium orbiculare group at 210m.
- the subsequent occurrences of bryozoan fragments at 290m and of the ostracod Rabilimis mirabilis at 330m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The presence at 210m of the nominate taxa indicates development of the Pleistocene Elphidium incertum group/Nonion granosum - Protelphidium orbiculare group Assemblage. The sparse, low diversity microfaunal associations suggest deposition in a high energy inner shelf environment. The occurrences of bryozoan fragments at 290m and of the ostracod Rabilimis mirabilis at 330m constitute potentially correlatable events.

INTERVAL 450m-800m; PLIOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Nordland Group (part).

Environment: marine, inner to outer shelf, shallowing to inner shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological criteria:

- the co-occurrence of *Cibicides lobatulus* var. *grossa* and *Nonion* affine at 450m.
- the subsequent occurrences of *Bulimina marginata* at 690m, *Sigmoilina celata* at 740m, *Cibicides pseudoungerianus* at 750m and *Monspeliensina pseudotepida* and *Pullenia bulloides* at 790m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The occurrence at 450m of the nominate taxa indicates penetration of the Pliocene *Cibicides lobatulus* var. *grossa*/*Nonion* affine Assemblage. The age assigned is corroborated by subsequent findings of a number of characteristic species listed above. The postulated palaeoenvironment remains essentially as for the overlying interval, but a slightly deeper environment is indicated over the lower half of the interval.

INTERVAL 800m-1380m; LATE - MIDDLE MIOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Units:

Nordland Group (part): 800m-1310m.

Hordaland Group (part): 1310m-1380m.

Environment: marine, outer shelf, shallowing to inner to outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological criteria:

- the occurrence of *Cibicides peelensis*, *Eponides umbonatus* and *Loxostomum sinuosum* at 800m.
- the subsequent occurrences of *Nonion boueanum* at 840m, *Angulogerina gracilis*, *Dentalina konincki* and *Textularia decrescens* at 890m, *Globigerina praebulloides* at 900m, *Orbulina universa* at 910m, *Uvigerina hosiusi* at 930m, *Chilostomellina fimbriata* at 960m, *Coscinodiscus* spp. and *Hoeglundina elegans* at 1040m, *Pseudoclavulina* sp. at 1070m, *Spiroplectammina carinata* at 1130m, *Glomospira charoides* at 1150m, *Globigerina bradyi* at 1160m, *Elphidium inflatum* and *Globigerina angustiumbilocata* at 1200m, *Globigerina angustiumbilocata*/aff. *angulisuturalis* transients at 1220m, *Bolboforma metzmacheri* at 1270, *Litheliid* sp.A and *Bolboforma spiralis* at 1330m and *Bolboforma clodiusi* at 1350m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The occurrence at 800m of the nominate taxa indicates joint development of the *Cibicides peelensis* and *Loxostomum sinuosum*/*Eponides umbonatus* Assemblages, both of Late Miocene age, at this depth. Three additional assemblages are recognised within the remainder of this interval: the Late - Middle Miocene *Angulogerina gracilis* Assemblage (below 890m) and the Middle Miocene *Glomospira charoides*/*Bathysiphon* spp./*Pseudoclavulina* sp. and *Globovoluta scitula* group/*Globigerina angustiumbilocata* Assemblages (respectively, below 1070m and 1200m). Several characteristic species corroborate the age assigned. The postulated palaeoenvironment for the Late Miocene and *Angulogerina gracilis* Assemblage Zone is inner to outer shelf. This is based on the dominantly calcareous benthonic foraminiferal associations therein, which are moderately rich and diverse. In contrast, the Middle Miocene would appear to have been

deposited in somewhat deeper waters subject to more open marine influences. Evidence for these views is provided by increasing proportions of agglutinating foraminifera in the *Glomospira charoides*/*Bathysiphon* spp./*Pseudoclavulina* sp. Assemblage, and of planktonic foraminifera in the *Globorotalia scitula* group/*Globigerina angustiumbilicata* Assemblage. Within the latter, the following sequence of species of the problematic (?algal cyst) genus *Bolboforma* was noted: *B. metzmacheri* at and below 1270m; *B. spiralis* at and below 1330m, and *B. clodiusi* at and below 1350m. The radiolarian species *Litheliid* sp.A, usually an Oligocene and Early Miocene indicator, was recorded at 1330m.

INTERVAL 1380m-1410m; EARLY MIOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Hordaland Group (part).

Environment: marine, inner to outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological criterion:

- the occurrence of *Asterigerina staeschei* at 1380m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Reliable evidence for an Early Miocene age is provided by the presence of the planktonic foraminifera *Globigerinoides triloba*, *Sphaeroidinellopsis seminulina* and *Globorotalia zealandica* caved into the underlying interval and of the calcareous benthonic form *Asterigerina staeschei* in situ at 1380m. The occurrence of the last named species indicates an inner to outer shelf environment of deposition. The occurrence of *Sigmoilina schlumbergeri* at 1390m and of *Guttulina problema* at 1400m is probably due to minor reworking of Oligocene sediments.

INTERVAL 1410m-2330m; LATE OLIGOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Unit:
Hordaland Group (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf to upper bathyal shallowing to inner to outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological criteria:

- the occurrence at 1410m of *Globorotalia opima nana*.
- the subsequent occurrences of *Globigerina woodi* at 1420m, *Rotalia canui* at 1430m, *Asterigerina glurichi* at 1440m, *Globigerina ?ouachitaensis* at 1470m, *Dorothia* sp.6 at 1510m, *Karrerella* cf. *apicularis* at 1520m, *Uvigerina tenuipustulata* at 1530m, *Coscinodiscus* cf. sp.1 at 1550m, *Coscinodiscus* sp.4 at 1740m, *Sigmoilina schlumbergeri* at 1750m, *Coscinodiscus* sp.13 at 1830m, *Cyclammina amplexans* at 1840m, *Trochammina globigeriniformis* at 1850m, *Trochammina altiformis* at 1860m, *Coscinodiscus* sp.5 at 1870m, *Coscinodiscus* sp.3 at 2080m, *Cystammina* sp. at 2090m, *Baggatella* cf. *altiuscula* at 2160m, *Trochammina* sp.X at 2300m and *Elphidium latidorsatum* at 2310m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

An Oligocene age can be assigned to the sediments penetrated at 1410m on the basis of the recovery from the sample at that depth of *Globorotalia opima nana*. This is a planktonic foraminifer which ranges no higher than Zone P.22 of Blow 1979 (latest Oligocene). The age is substantiated by recognition of the *Asterigerina glurichi*/*Guttulina problema* Assemblage, the former nominate taxon occurring at and below 1440m, the latter caved into the underlying interval. This assemblage is believed to have been deposited under inner to outer shelf conditions. In contrast, the *Sigmoilina schlumbergeri* Assemblage (which occurs below 1750m) and the *Trochammina globigeriniformis*/*Trochammina* sp.X/*Cystammina* sp. Assemblage (which occurs below 1850m) are believed to have been deposited under outer shelf to upper bathyal conditions. Evidence for this is provided by the occurrence therein of substantial numbers of agglutinated foraminifera.

Within the Late Oligocene interval as a whole, the following sequence of diatoms was noted: *Coscinodiscus* cf. sp.1 at and below 1550m, *C.* sp.4 at and below 1740m, *C.* sp.13 at and below 1830m, *C.* sp.5 at and below 1870m and *C.* sp.3 at and below 2080m. Actinommid radiolaria (?*Genosphaera* spp.) were first recorded at 1930m.

INTERVAL 2330m-2520m; EARLY OLIGOCENE - MIDDLE? EOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Unit:
Hordaland Group (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf to upper bathyal.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological and stratigraphical criteria:

- the occurrence at 2330m of *Rotaliatina bulimoides*.
- the subsequent occurrence at 2340m of *Globigerina gortanii*.
- the stratigraphical position of the section in relation to underlying positively dated Middle Eocene.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The *Rotaliatina bulimoides* Assemblage, defined in terms of the total range of the nominate taxon and recognized between 2330m and 2350m, can be dated, by comparison with onshore sections and by inclusion of the planktonic foraminifer *Globigerina gortanii* (at 2340m), as Early Oligocene in age. The remainder of the interval represents a downhole continuation of the agglutinate dominated *Trochammina globigeriniformis*/*Trochammina* sp.X/*Cystammina* sp. Assemblage first recorded in the overlying Late Oligocene and perhaps extending down as far as the Middle Eocene, although the sidewall core at 2517m yielded no diagnostic Middle Eocene species. Both assemblages recognized within this interval indicate an outer shelf to upper bathyal environment of deposition.

INTERVAL 2520m-2690m; MIDDLE - EARLY? EOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Unit:
Hordaland Group (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf to upper bathyal.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological and stratigraphical criteria:

- the occurrence at 2520m of *Ammobaculites* sp.1.
- the subsequent occurrences of *Spiroplectammina spectabilis* at 2560m and *Spiroplectammina navarroana* and *Trochammina* sp.C at 2595m(SWC).
- the stratigraphical position of the interval in relation to underlying positively dated Early Eocene.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The recovery from the ditch cuttings sample at 2520m of *Ammobaculites* sp.1 indicates development, at and below this depth, of the Middle - Early? Eocene *Ammobaculites* sp.1/*Verneuilina subeocaena*/*Spiroplectammina spectabilis* Assemblage. This is subsequently confirmed by the finding at 2560m of *Spiroplectammina spectabilis*. *Spiroplectammina navarroana* and *Trochammina* sp.C, recognized in the sidewall core from 2595m, support the age assigned, the former further indicating proximity to the Middle/Early Eocene boundary. No positive Early Eocene was encountered until 2690m. The predominantly agglutinated nature of the microfaunal associations within this interval again indicates an outer shelf to upper bathyal environment of deposition.

INTERVAL 2690m-2716.50m(log); EARLY EOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Hordaland Group (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf to upper bathyal.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological criterion:

- the occurrence of *Globigerina* "triloculinoides" and *G. linaperta* at 2690m.

The Early Eocene may rest unconformably on the underlying Late Palaeocene.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The occurrence of planktonic foraminifera, including *Globigerina* "triloculinoides" and *G. linaperta* at 2690m, permits recognition of Early Eocene deposits at and below this depth. The absence of planktonic foraminifera indicative of earliest Eocene deposits, together with regional considerations, tentatively suggests that a stratigraphical break separates this from the underlying Late Palaeocene interval.

INTERVAL 2716.50m(log)-2864m(SWC); LATE PALAEOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Units:

Rogaland Group;

Balder Formation: 2716.50m(log)-2757.50m(log),

Sele Formation: 2757.50m(log)-2830m(log),

Lista Formation: 2830m(log)-2854m(log).

Montrose Group (part);

Maureen Formation (part): 2854m(log)-2864m(SWC).

Environment: marine, outer shelf deepening to outer shelf to upper bathyal.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break at 2716.50m delineating the top of the Balder Formation.

The age of this interval is based on the following micropalaeontological criteria:

- the co-occurrences of *Coscinodiscus* sp.1 and C.sp.2 at 2720m(SWC).
- the subsequent occurrence of *Spiroplectammina spectabilis* (Palaeocene var.) at 2845m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The development of the *Coscinodiscus* sp.1 Assemblage to 2777m(SWC) indicates that the sediments encountered within the top part of this interval are Late Palaeocene in age. The remaining assemblages recognized are all consistent with this age. They are as follows: the Morphogroup A Assemblage, 2777m(SWC) - 2809m, comprising primitive astrorhizids such as *Bathysiphon* spp. and *Hyperammina* spp. (also found in the *Coscinodiscus* sp.1 Assemblage at 2720m(SWC)); the Morphogroup B Assemblage, 2809m-2845m, containing additional lituolid taxa such as *Haplophragmoides* cf. *walteri* and *Recurvoides* spp.; the Morphogroup C Assemblage, 2845m-2854m, containing the textulariid *Spiroplectammina spectabilis* (Palaeocene var.) and also *Paratrochamminoides* spp., and the Calcareous Benthonics Assemblage, 2854m-2864m(SWC), containing nodosariids, polymorphinids and gavelinellids. With regard to the palaeoenvironment, it is postulated that

the transition from the Calcareous Benthonics Assemblage, through the Morphogroups C and B Assemblages, to the Morphogroup A Assemblage represent a phase of gradual deepening and restriction of bottom water circulation. As conditions so deteriorated, the availability of nutrients diminished, such that the eutrophic herbivorous feeders of the Calcareous Benthonics Assemblage became replaced by the progressively more oligotrophic passive deposit feeders of the Morphogroup C Assemblage, active deposit feeders of the Morphogroup B Assemblage and suspension feeders of the Morphogroup A Assemblage, the relationship between shell morphology and feeding strategy enabling recognition of this distinct trend. The *Coscinodiscus* sp.1 Assemblage contains abundant siliceous and pyritized diatom frustules, considered to be indicative of enrichment of surface waters in SiO_2 or CaO associated with vulcanism. An alternative model would require upwelling associated with a major rifting phase. Both would be equally plausible in view of the currently accepted nature of terminal Palaeocene events.

INTERVAL 2864m(SWC) - 3023.50m(log); EARLY PALAEOCENE

Lithostratigraphic Units:

Montrose Group (part);

Maureen Formation (part): 2864m(SWC)-2870m(log).

Chalk Group (part);

Ekofisk Formation: 2870m(log)-3023.50m(log).

Environment: marine, outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following micropalaeontological criteria:

- the occurrence of *Globorotalia pseudobulloides*, G. cf. *compressa* sensu Blow 1979 and *Globigerina trivialis* at 2864m(SWC).
- the subsequent occurrences of *Globigerina* aff. *trivialis* sensu Blow 1979 at 2926m and *G. simplicissima* at 2938m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Penetration of Lower Palaeocene sediments at 2864m is evidenced by the recovery from the sidewall core sample at this depth of the planktonic foraminifera *Globorotalia pseudobulloides*, G. cf. *compressa* sensu Blow 1979 and *Globigerina trivialis*, none of which ranges higher than Zone P.2 of Blow 1979 in the North Sea Basin. The subsequent recovery of the calcareous benthonic foraminifera *Quadrinorina allomorphinoides*, *Anomalinoidea nobilis*, *A. velascoensis* and *Gavelinella beccariiformis* (= *G. vombensis* of earlier RRI reports) is broadly consistent with the age assigned. The finding of *Globigerina* aff. *trivialis* sensu Blow 1979 at 2926m, and of *G. simplicissima* at 2938m permits recognition of the early Early Palaeocene Zone P.1 of Blow 1979 at and below the former depth. Characteristically, these forms exhibit a chalky mode of preservation. The development of a calcareous benthonic microfauna suggests normal marine conditions, the dominant families (nonionids and gavelinellids) further indicating an outer shelf setting. Strong open marine influences are implied by the strong planktonic element.

VI(2) CRETACEOUS

INTERVAL 3023.50m(log)-3061m; LATE CRETACEOUS, LATEST MAASTRICHTIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Chalk Group (part);

Tor Formation (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf.

The upper limit is based on a log break at 3023.50m which defines the top of the Tor Formation.

The age is based on the following nannofloral and micropalaeontological criteria:

- the appearance of Late Cretaceous calcareous nanofossils, including abundant *Arkhangelskiella cymbiformis* and common *Micula staurophora*, at 3031m.
- the occurrence of *Globotruncana contusa* at 3046m.
- the occurrence of caved latest Maastrichtian restricted taxa *Nephrolithus frequens* and *Lithraphidites quadratus* at 3169m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Recovery of microfaunas from this interval is very poor and the majority of forms recorded is not-age diagnostic or caved Tertiary taxa. The occurrence of *Brizalina incrassata incrassata* at 3034m, however, confirms that Maastrichtian deposits have been penetrated and the occurrence of *Globotruncana contusa* at 3046m confirms a latest Maastrichtian age.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

A single ditch cuttings sample was examined from this interval and yielded a poor to moderately well preserved nannofloral assemblage characterised by *Arkhangelskiella cymbiformis*.

The appearance of abundant *Arkhangelskiella cymbiformis* and common *Micula staurophora* in association with such Late Cretaceous species as *Prediscorphaera*

cretacea and *Kamptnerius magnificus* at 3031m indicates that sediments of probable latest Maastrichtian age have been encountered at this depth, assigned to the *Arkhangelskiella cymbiformis* Subzone 1A. Some support for this age determination is provided by the occurrence of caved specimens of the latest Maastrichtian restricted taxa *Nephrolithus frequens* and *Lithraphidites quadratus* at 3169m. The presence of these species suggests that sediments belonging to the *Nephrolithus frequens* Subzone 1B are present in the well. Some Early Palaeocene caving is also noted over this interval.

INTERVAL 3061m-3282m(SWC); LATE CRETACEOUS, LATE MAASTRICHTIAN

Lithostratigraphic Units:

Chalk Group (part);

Tor Formation: 3061m-3275m(log),

Hod Formation: 3275m(log)-3282m(SWC).

Environment: marine, outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following nannofloral criteria:

- the appearance of *Reinhardtites levis* at 3061m.
- the subsequent appearance of *Gartnerago obliquum* at 3140m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Recovery from the hard Tor limestones is characteristically very poor.

Occasional Late Cretaceous taxa were recorded within the interval, notably *Inoceramus debris* (3082m), *Globigerinelloides asper* (3140m), ?*Bolivinoïdes draco draco* (3214m) and ?*Globotruncana marginata* (3262m).

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The two ditch cuttings samples examined from this interval contained poorly preserved nannofloral assemblages dominated by *Arkhangelskiella cymbiformis*.

The appearance of the index taxon *Reinhardtites levis* at 3061m indicates that sediments of late Maastrichtian age have been penetrated at this depth, assigned to the *Reinhardtites levis* Subzone IC. The subsequent appearance of *Gartnerago obliquum* at 3140m allows the recognition of the *Gartnerago obliquum* Subzone ID, also of late Maastrichtian age.

INTERVAL 3282m(SWC)-3340m; LATE CRETACEOUS, EARLY MAASTRICHTIAN - LATE CAMPANIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Chalk Group (part);

Hod Formation (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following nannofloral and micropalaeontological criteria:

- the appearance of *Reinhardtites biperforatus*, *Phanulithus obscurus* in association with common *Micula staurophora* at 3282m(SWC).
- the subsequent appearance of *Helicolithus trabeculatus* and *Reinhardtites anthophorus* at 3310m.
- the presence of a red stained microfauna, including *Globotruncana cf. arca* in the sidewall core at 3282m.
- the subsequent occurrence of common *Rugoglobigerina/Archaeoglobigerina* spp. (3286m), *Globotruncana marginata* (3310m) and *Reussella szajnochae szajnochae* (3310m).
- the appearance of *Broinsonia parca* at 3331m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The interpretation of the microfaunal evidence is hampered by the lack of information from the overlying interval due to the poor recovery of assemblages. At 3282m(SWC) there is a marked change in the microfaunal recovery, with a moderately rich assemblage which is strongly red stained being recorded. The presence of *Globotruncana cf. arca* in this assemblage indicates that the sediments are probably no younger than early Maastrichtian in age. The *Rugoglobigerina/Archaeoglobigerina* complex is common at 3286m. Such an increase is usually associated with the penetration of the early Maastrichtian, but this increase may be due to a change in facies giving better microfaunal recovery. If the age interpretation is correct, then the subsequent occurrence of *Globotruncana marginata* with *Reussella szajnochae szajnochae* at 3310m may indicate a late Campanian age. Nannofossil evidence strongly supports an early

Maastrichtian - late Campanian age assignment for this interval. Contradictory evidence is that the assemblages are strongly pink stained and contain *Dorothia* sp.1 (3282m(SWC)) and *Tritaxia dubia* (3286m). These species generally appear in the early Campanian, but have been recorded in younger sediments or may be reworked in this instance.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The ditch cuttings and sidewall core samples, analysed from this interval yielded moderately to poorly preserved nannofloral assemblages characterised by *Arkhangelskiella cymbiformis*.

The appearance of *Reinhardtites biperforatus* in association with *Phanulithus obscurus* at 3282m(SWC) indicates that sediments are no younger than the *Reinhardtites biperforatus* Subzone 1F of early Maastrichtian age. However, the subsequent appearance of *Helicolithus trabeculatus* at 3310m suggests that sediments of an older late Campanian age have been penetrated at this depth, assigned to the *Helicolithus trabeculatus* Subzone 2B. Further general support for the age assigned to the interval is provided by the occurrence of *Broinsonia parca* at 3331m.

In view of the micropalaeontological evidence only a general early Maastrichtian to late Campanian age can be assigned to the interval.

INTERVAL 3340m-3348m(log); LATE CRETACEOUS, EARLY CAMPANIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:
Chalk Group (part);
Hod Formation (part).

Environment: marine, outer shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following nannofloral criterion:

- the appearance of *Eiffellithus eximius* in association with *Tranolithus orionatus* at 3340m.

This interval rests unconformably on sediments of early Turonian age.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

A single ditch cuttings sample was analysed at 3346m. Only a few foraminifera were present, including *Globotruncana marginata*. No taxa diagnostic of the early Campanian were found in this sample.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The ditch cuttings sample examined at 3340m contained quite a rich, moderately preserved, nannofloral assemblage.

The appearance of *Eiffellithus eximius* at 3340m indicates that sediments no younger than the unnamed Subzone 2C of early Campanian age are present at this depth. The appearance of *Tranolithus orionatus* at the same depth adds some support for a general Campanian age. Early Palaeocene and Late Cretaceous caving was also noted over this interval.

INTERVAL 3348m(log)-3367m(log); LATE CRETACEOUS, EARLY TURONIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Chalk Group (part);

Plenus Marl Formation.

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break at 3348m which defines the top of the Plenus Marl Formation.

The age is based on the following nannofloral criteria:

- the appearance of *Lithastrinus floralis* and to a lesser extent *Biscutum ellipticum* at 3352m(SWC).
- the apparent absence of such species as *Kamptnerius magnificus*, *Eiffellithus eximius*, *Ahmueллерella octoradiata* and *Quadrum gartneri* in either of the sidewall cores at 3352m or 3365m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

There is a further change in the microfaunas at and below 3352m(SWC) with a return to poorly preserved and impoverished assemblages; the majority of taxa recorded having caved. The occurrence of *Stensioina praeexsulpta* at 3353m is consistent with the early Turonian age assigned on nannofloral evidence.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The two sidewall core samples analysed from this interval, yielded moderately preserved and, in the case of the sample at 3365(SWC), a relatively rich nannofloral assemblage dominated by *Watznaueria barnesae*.

The appearance of *Lithastrinus floralis* at 3352(SWC) suggests that sediments are no younger than Turonian age at this depth. However, the absence of such species as *Kamptnerius magnificus*, *Ahmueллерella octoradiata* and in particular *Eiffellithus eximius* and *Quadrum gartneri* at this level and the subsequent sidewall core sample at 3365m indicates that sediments are certainly no younger

than early Turonian in age at these respective depths. The appearance of *Biscutum ellipticum* at 3352m(SWC), a species which often seems to appear just above the Plenus Marl Formation in the Southern Norwegian North Sea Chalk Field Province, lends some further support for an early Turonian age determination. The subsequent occurrence of common *Tranolithus orionatus* at 3365(SWC), (a species which often becomes abundant in the Cenomanian) would also suggest close proximity to sediments of Cenomanian age. This, coupled with the presence of relatively common *Lithastrinus floralis*, a form which characteristically can become common in the Plenus Marl (from regional knowledge), adds confirmation for the early Turonian age assigned to the interval.

INTERVAL 3367m(log)-3393m(log); LATE CRETACEOUS, CENOMANIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Chalk Group (part);

Hidra Formation.

Environment: marine, inner to outer shelf.

The upper limit of this interval is based on the log break at 3367m which defines the base of the Plenus Marl Formation.

The age is based on the following nannofloral criterion:

- the appearance of *Parhabdolithus angustus*, *Cribrosphaera primitiva*, *Parhabdolithus asper* and *Parhabdolithus achlyostaurion*, in association with abundant *Tranolithus orionatus* and *Broinsonia cf. enormis* at 3382m(SWC).

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The in situ microfaunas continue to be very impoverished. No age-diagnostic taxa are present.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The single sidewall core analysed from this interval yielded a rich, diverse and moderately preserved nannofloral assemblage dominated by *Watznaueria barnesae* and *Broinsonia cf. enormis*.

The appearance of *Parhabdolithus achlyostaurion*, *Parhabdolithus asper*, *Parhabdolithus angustus* and *Cribrosphaera primitiva* at 3382m(SWC) indicates that sediments of Cenomanian age have been encountered at this depth. However, the occurrence of *Parhabdolithus asper* at this horizon indicates that sediments are no younger than the *Parhabdolithus asper* Subzone 6C of middle Cenomanian age at this level. In view of this, and the presence of the late Cenomanian subzone marker species also in the sample, a late to middle Cenomanian age could be assigned to the interval 3367m to 3382m based on nannofloral evidence. However, in view of poor micropalaeontological evidence over this interval, and the fact that only a single sample was analysed for calcareous nannofossils, a general Cenomanian age has been preferred.

INTERVAL 3393m(log)-3459m(log); EARLY CRETACEOUS, ALBIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Cromer Knoll Group (part);

"Limestone Unit".

Environment: marine, inner to outer shelf.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break at 3393m which defines the top of the Cromer Knoll Group.

The age is based on the following nannofloral, palynological and micropalaeontological criteria:

- the appearance of common *Cribrosphaera primitiva* and *Biscutum ellipticum* at 3395m(SWC).
- the subsequent appearance of *Tegumentum stradneri* at 3442m.
- the apparent last stratigraphic downhole occurrence of *Tranolithus orionatus* at 3457m(SWC).
- the appearance in the ditch cuttings sample at 3436m of the dinocyst taxa *Palaeoperidinium cretaceum* and the *Subtilisphaera perlucida/terrula* group.
- the incoming of *Glomospira gordialis* and *Uvigerinamina moesiana* at 3454m.

This interval rests unconformably on sediments of early Barremian-late Hauterivian age.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Microfaunal recovery throughout the majority of the interval is very poor. A change is not recorded until the base of the interval at 3454m. A red stained microfauna was recovered at this depth, predominantly comprising agglutinated foraminifera, including *Glomospira gordialis* and *Uvigerinamina moesiana*. This assemblage indicates a general middle Albian to Aptian age, which is consistent with the Albian age assigned on nannofloral criteria.

The sidewall core at 3457m is barren of a microfauna.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The sidewall cores and ditch cuttings samples examined from this interval varied considerably in species diversity and preservation, with the ditch cuttings samples at 3409m and 3430m considered to be barren of in situ calcareous nannofossils.

The appearance of common *Cribrosphaera primitiva* and *Biscutum ellipticum* at 3395m(SWC) tentatively suggests that sediments of probable late Albian age have been penetrated. However, in view of the lack of any micropalaeontological or palynological evidence to support this tentative age assignment, this age determination must be viewed with some caution.

The first positive nannofloral evidence for penetration of sediments of Early Cretaceous age is provided at 3442m with the appearance of *Tegumentum stradneri*, indicating that sediments no younger than the *Tegumentum stradneri* Subzone 7B of middle Albian age are present at this depth. Further support for this age determination is subsequently provided at 3457m(SWC), with the last stratigraphic downhole occurrence of *Tranolithus orionatus* which, if in situ, would suggest that sediments are still no older than middle Albian in age at this depth.

A significant amount of both Tertiary and Late Cretaceous caving, which in some instances has considerably modified the nannofloral assemblages, was noted throughout this interval.

PALYNOLOGY

The ditch cuttings sample from 3415m yielded a palynoflora which consisted entirely of forms believed to be caved from the Tertiary. The sample from 3436m, although containing abundant caved Tertiary taxa, yielded single specimens of the dinocysts *Palaeoperidinium cretaceum* and the *Subtilisphaera perlucida/terrula* group. This association indicates that rocks of Early Cretaceous age, late Albian or older, have been penetrated. The sidewall core analysed from 3457m produced an unreliable assemblage, which indicated that drilling mud contamination had occurred.

INTERVAL 3459m(log)-3461m(log); EARLY CRETACEOUS, EARLY BARREMIAN - LATE HAUTERIVIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Cromer Knoll Group (part);

Valhall Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

This interval is defined by log breaks at 3459m and 3461m which mark a thin limestone unit.

The age is based on the following micropalaeontological and nannofloral criteria and regional knowledge.

- the occurrence of common *Uvigerinamina moesiana*, *Pontocypris* sp. and *Marssonella* cf. *trochus* at 3460m.
- the subsequent occurrence of caved *Aulotortus* (*Spirillina*) *neocomiana* (3539m), *Patellina subcretacea* (3562m) and *Lenticulina ouachensis wisselmanni* (3562m).
- the appearance of *Micrantholithus hoschulzi* at 3460m.

This interval rests unconformably on sediments of early Valanginian age.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The presence of early Barremian - late Hauterivian limestones is indicated in the ditch cuttings sample at 3460m and in cavings. At 3460m, *Uvigerinamina moesiana* is common and occurs commonly as cavings below this depth, as do *Marssonella* cf. *trochus*, *Lenticulina* spp. and species of ostracods. These taxa indicate the development of the Calcareous benthonics/Ostracods Assemblage which suggests a general Barremian - Neocomian age. A more restricted early Barremian - late Hauterivian age is proposed on regional considerations and on microfaunal evidence caved lower in the section. *Aulotortus* (*Spirillina*) *neocomiana* (3539m), *Patellina subcretacea* (3562m) and *Lenticulina ouachensis wisselmanni* (3562m) all indicate an age no younger than early Barremian.

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The single ditch cuttings sample examined from this interval (3460m) consisted almost entirely of caved Late Cretaceous species.

However, the appearance of *Micrantholithus hoschulzi* at this depth (a species which has a reported stratigraphic top in the Aptian) would suggest that sediments are no younger than Aptian age at this horizon. However, from regional knowledge this species does in fact tend to appear (first downhole occurrence) at the top of the Barremian in the area. So its presence at 3460m, whilst not confirming the micropalaeontological evidence, does provide some tentative support for a Barremian or older age for the sample.

INTERVAL 3461m(log)-3580m; EARLY CRETACEOUS, EARLY VALANGINIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Cromer Knoll Group (part);

Valhall Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break.

The age of this interval is based on the following palynological and nannofloral criteria:

- the appearance of the dinocyst *Tuboturarella apatela* in association with *Muderongia simplex* (tabulate var.), *Phoberocysta neocomica* and *Sirmodinium grossii* in the sidewall core at 3462m.
- The subsequent occurrences of *Canningia compta* at 3475m(SWC), the *Muderongia crucis/tetracantha* group at 3490m(SWC), *Nelchinopsis kostromiensis* and common *Cleistosphaeridium* sp. KE McIntyre and Brideaux 1980 at 3505m(SWC), *Gochteodinia "robusta"* at 3520m(SWC), *Systematophora palmula* and *Dinocyst* sp.1 at 3535m(SWC), *Gochteodinia villosa multifurcata* at 3550m(SWC) and *Muderongia "pyknosa"* in the ditch cuttings sample from 3562m.
- the appearance of common *Cruciplacolithus salebrosus* in association with *Diazomatolithus lehmani*, common *Tranolithus gabalus* and common *Nannoconus* sp. at 3475m(SWC).
- the subsequent occurrence of *Corollithion silvaradion*, abundant *Cycagelosphaera margereli*, abundant *Cruciplacolithus salebrosus* and ?*Cruciplacolithus* sp.1 at 3490m(SWC).

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The majority of forms, recorded in this section, is caved, principally from the overlying interval. Rare, in situ species are present, notably *Lenticulina nodosa* at 3472m and *L. cf. nodosa* at 3496m. The sidewall core samples at 3462m and 3505m were barren, the other sidewall core samples yielding poor assemblages of small, agglutinated foraminifera.

PALYNOLOGY

The sidewall core from 3462m yielded a very rich palynoflora dominated by Tertiary forms from drilling mud contamination. The presence, however, of the dinocysts *Tubotubella apatela*, *Muderongia simplex* (tabulate var.), *Phoberocysta neocomica* and *Sirmiodinium grossii* indicates that rocks of early Valanginian age have been penetrated. The assemblages throughout this interval are rich in dinocysts and include the typical forms *Kleithriasphaeridium corrugatum*, *K. fasciatum*, *K. simplicispinum*, *Lagenorhytis delicatulus*, *Pseudoceratium "eopelliferum"*, *P. pelliferum*, *Cassiculosphaeridia magna* and *Ctenidodinium elegantulum*. Significant occurrences within this interval are *Canningia compta*, the *Muderongia crucis/tetracanta* group, *M. "pyknosa"*, *Nelchinopsis kostromiensis*, common *Cleistosphaeridium* sp. KE McIntyre and Brideaux 1980, *Gochteodinia "robusta"*, *G. villosa multifurcata*, *Systematophora palmula* and *Dinocyst* sp.1. The *M. crucis/tetracantha* group, recorded from 3490m(SWC) has a base in the late early Valanginian. The specimens of *Oligosphaeridium diluculum* from this interval are possibly present due to reworking, and there is evidence of definite reworking of sediments of Middle Jurassic to Late Triassic age, with records of *Chasmatosporites* spp. and *Ovalipollis pseudoalatus*.

The assemblages from this interval can all be assigned to the *Tubotubella apatela* Dinocyst Subzone (IVB) of the *Phoberocysta neocomica* Dinocyst Zone (IV).

CALCAREOUS NANNOFOSSILS

The appearance of common *Cruciplacolithus salebrosus* in association with common *Tranolithus gabalus* at 3475m, both numerical acmes characteristic of sediments of early Valanginian age, indicates that sediments assigned to the *Micrantholithus speetonensis* Subzone IIB of early Valanginian age have been encountered. Some further support for this age assignment is provided by the subsequent appearance of *Corollithion silivaradion*, ?*Cruciplacolithus* sp.1 and abundant *Cyclagelosphaera margereli* (another numerical acme characteristic of deposits of early Valanginian age, from regional knowledge), at 3490m(SWC).

INTERVAL 3580m-3601m; EARLY CRETACEOUS, EARLIEST VALANGINIAN.

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Cromer Knoll Group (part);

Valhall Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following palynological criterion:

- the appearance of *Endoscrinium pharo* and *Surculosphaeridium* sp.III Davey 1982.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The microfaunal assemblages continue as in the overlying interval. Species of *Lenticulina* and agglutinated foraminifera, with common cavings, were recorded.

PALYNOLOGY

The ditch cuttings sample from 3580m produced a rich dinocyst-dominated palynoflora which includes forms such as *Phoberocysta neocomica*, *Maduradinium?* sp.A, *Kleithriasphaeridium fasciatum*, *K. simplicispinum*, *Lagenorhytis delicatulus* and *Isthmocysta distincta*. Of particular stratigraphic significance are the appearance of *Endoscrinium phara* and *Surculosphaeridium* sp.III Davey 1982. The presence of *E. pharo* indicates an earliest Valanginian age and assignment to the *Endoscrinium pharo* Dinocyst Subzone (IVC) of the *Phoberocysta neocomica* Dinocyst Zone (IV).

INTERVAL 3601m-3638.50m(log); EARLY CRETACEOUS, LATEST RYAZANIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Cromer Knoll Group;

Valhall Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following palynological criteria:

- the appearance in the ditch cuttings sample at 3601m of *Dingodinium spinosum*, *Egmontodinium* cf. *expiratum*, *E. torynum*, *Cantulodinium* sp.1 and *Dinocyst* sp.II, together with records of *Oligosphaeridium diluculum* which are considered to be in situ.
- the subsequent occurrence in the ditch cuttings sample at 3619m of *Gochteodinia villosa* and *Gonyaulacysta* sp.B Davey 1982.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The single ditch cuttings sample analysed at 3607m was barren.

PALYNOLOGY

A very rich dinocyst-dominated palynoflora was recorded from the ditch cuttings sample at 3601m. The assemblage is dominated by *Hystriodinium pulchrum* and *Cleistosphaeridium* spp.; other forms present including *Dingodinium albertii*, *Ctenidodinium elegantulum*, *Systematophora palmula* and *Occisucysta tentoria*. Of particular stratigraphical significance are the records of *Dingodinium spinosum* and *Egmontodinium torynum* together with *E. cf. expiratum*, *Cantulodinium* sp.1, *Dinocyst* sp.II and *Oligosphaeridium diluculum*. The latter is here considered to be in situ. *Gochteodinia villosa* and *Gonyaulacysta* sp.B Davey 1982 were first seen in the ditch cuttings sample from 3619m.

The presence of *D. spinosum* and *E. torynum* indicates a latest Ryazanian age and this interval can be assigned to the "?*Prolixosphaeridium*" *torynum* Dinocyst Subzone (VA) - *Dichadogonyaulax* spp. Dinocyst Subzone (VB) of the *Dingodinium spinosum* Dinocyst Zone (V).

VI (3) CRETACEOUS - ?JURASSIC

INTERVAL 3638.50m(log)-3691m; EARLY CRETACEOUS - ?LATE JURASSIC, LATE RYAZANIAN
- ?LATE VOLGIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Boknfjord Group (part);

 Kimmeridge Clay Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf with anoxic bottom conditions.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break.

The age is based on regional knowledge and the general palynofloras recovered.

PALYNOLOGY

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break, particularly well seen in the gamma-ray profile, which marks the top of the Kimmeridge Clay Formation. The top of this formation is regionally known to lie within the *stenomphalus* ammonite zone of the late Ryazanian (Rawson and Riley, 1982). The sidewall core from 3641m yielded an impoverished palynoflora, with evidence of drilling mud contamination, the in situ elements being rare prasinophycean algae and bisaccate pollen. The ditch cuttings sample analysed from 3661m yielded abundant amorphous kerogen, a feature typical of the Kimmeridge Clay Formation. In addition it yielded a rich and diverse palynoflora which is dominated by dinocysts, although the prasinophycean algal genus *Pterospermella* is fairly common. A similar assemblage was recovered from the ditch cuttings sample from 3681m. The dinocyst association recorded from these samples is typical of the early late Ryazanian and includes forms such as *Oligosphaeridium diluculum*, *Canningia compta*, *Dingodinium spinosum*, *Stiphrosphaeridium dictyophorum* and *Gochteodinia villosa*. There are no forms indicative of rocks of early Ryazanian or late Volgian age. The caliper on the wireline log over this interval does, however, indicate a major wash-out of the hole and the ditch cuttings samples recovered are therefore probably not representative of the in situ rocks and no

sidewall cores were taken. This interval has therefore been assigned an Early Cretaceous - ?Late Jurassic, late Ryazanian - ?late Volgian age. The assemblage can be attributed to the *Dichadogonyaulax* spp. Dinocyst Subzone (VB) - ?*Systematophora* spp. Dinocyst Subzone (VIC) of the *Dingodinium spinosum* Dinocyst Zone (V) - ?"*Imbatodinium*" *villosum* Dinocyst Zone (VI). A possible unconformity is proposed at the base of this interval because, although no palynomorphs indicative of an age older than late Ryazanian were recovered, the palynofloras are considered to be unrepresentative.

VI(4) JURASSIC

INTERVAL 3691m-3723.50m(log); LATE JURASSIC, LATE MIDDLE VOLGIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Boknfjord Group (part);

 Kimmeridge Clay Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf with anoxic bottom conditions.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following palynological criteria:

- the appearance of *Ctenidodinium panneum* and *Glossodinium dimorphum* in the ditch cuttings sample at 3691m.
- the subsequent occurrence of *Hexagonifera jurassica* at 3700m (ditch cuttings sample) and below, and of a caved specimen of *Muderongia* sp.A Davey 1979 in the ditch cuttings sample at 3721m(3726m approximately, when corrected to loggers' depth).

This interval rests unconformably on sediments of latest early Volgian age.

PALYNOLOGY

The ditch cuttings sample from 3691m produced a rich palynoflora which included the dinocysts *Ctenidodinium panneum*, *Glossodinium dimorphum* and *Egmontodinium exspiratum*. The presence of *C. panneum* and *G. dimorphum* indicates that rocks of middle Volgian age have been penetrated. Further support for the age is provided by the occurrence of *Hexagonifera jurassica* in the ditch cuttings sample from 3700m and below and also of a caved specimen of *Muderongia* sp.A Davey 1979 in the ditch cuttings sample from 3721m (3726m approximately, when corrected to loggers' depth).

The absence of persistent and subsequently common *Muderongia* sp. A Davey 1979 indicates that only sediments of late middle Volgian age are present. If in situ, the association of *Gochteodinia villosa* with *Egmontodinium polyplacophorum*

in the mud-contaminated sidewall core from 3721.50m would indicate an age no older than the *Dichadogonyaulax pannea* Dinocyst Subzone (VIIA). This interval can be assigned to the *Dichadogonyaulax pannea* Dinocyst Subzone (VIIA) - *Dichadogonyaulax culmula* Dinocyst Subzone (VIIB) of the *Muderongia* sp.A Dinocyst Zone (VII).

INTERVAL 3723.50m(log)-3741.70m(core); LATE JURASSIC, LATEST EARLY VOLGIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Vestland Group (part);

Ula Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit of this interval is defined on a log break.

The age is based on the following palynological criteria:

- the appearance of *Oligosphaeridium pulcherrimum* sensu Ioannides et al. 1977 in the ditch cuttings sample from 3721m (3726m approximately, when corrected to loggers' depth).
- the subsequent occurrence of *Perisseiasphaeridium* spp. in the sidewall core from 3724.50m and below.

PALYNOLOGY

The ditch cuttings sample from 3721m has an approximate depth of 3726m when corrected to loggers' depth since there is a five metre discrepancy between drillers' and loggers' depth indicated on the wireline log. The presence of *Oligosphaeridium pulcherrimum* sensu Ioannides et al. 1977 indicates that rocks of early Volgian age have been penetrated. There is also a marked increase in prasinophycean algae in this sample. The top of the interval has been drawn slightly higher, at 3723.50m, based on a log break. Further support for the age is provided by the occurrence of *Perisseiasphaeridium* spp. in the sidewall core from 3724.50m and below.

The assemblages from this interval can all be assigned to the *Gonyaulacysta jurassica* Dinocyst Subzone (VIII B) of the *Pareodinia murabilis* Dinocyst Zone (VIII) and indicate a latest early Volgian age for this interval.

INTERVAL 3741.70m(core)-3758.10m(core); LATE JURASSIC, EARLY VOLGIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Vestland Group (part);

Ula Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following palynological criterion:

- the appearance of *Gonyaulacysta longicornis* together with a marked increase in the number of specimens of *Oligosphaeridium pulcherrimum* sensu Ioannides et al. 1977 in the core piece from 3741.70m.

PALYNOLOGY

The core piece analysed from 3741.70m yielded a microplankton-dominated assemblage which included common *O. pulcherrimum* sensu Ioannides et al. (1977) and *G. longicornis*, together with *Ctenidodinium panneum*, *Perisseiasphaeridium* spp, *Glossodinium dimorphum* and *Egmontodinium ovatum*. The core pieces examined from 3748.80m and 3752m yielded relatively impoverished microplankton-dominated palynofloras.

The incoming of *G. longicornis*, with a marked increase in the number of specimens of *O. pulcherrimum* sensu Ioannides et al. 1977, indicates that the assemblages in this interval can be assigned an early Volgian age and be attributed to the *Egmontodinium polyplacophorum* Dinocyst Subzone (IXA) of the *Gonyaulacysta longicornis* Dinocyst Zone (IX).

INTERVAL 3758.10m(core)-3767m(log); LATE JURASSIC, LATEST KIMMERIDGIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Vestland Group (part);

Ula Formation (part).

Environment: marine, inner shelf.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following palynological criteria:

- the appearance of *Palaeoperidinium paemosum* and *Scriniodinium luridum* in the core piece at 3758.10m.
- the subsequent appearance of *Gonyaulacysta jurassica* in the core piece at 3760.10m.
- the presence of *P. paemosum* in the core piece at 3762.20m.

This interval rests unconformably on sediments of Triassic age.

PALYNOLOGY

The palynoflora obtained from the core piece at 3758.10m consists entirely of microplankton. The presence of the dinocysts *Palaeoperidinium paemosum* and *Scriniodinium luridum* indicates that rocks of latest Kimmeridgian age have been penetrated. The core piece from 3760.10m yielded a palynoflora which included the dinocysts *P. paemosum*, *S. luridum*, *Ctenidodinium panneum* and *Perisseiasphaeridium* spp. and the first occurrence of *G. jurassica*. The core piece from 3762.10m produced common microforaminiferal test linings and a specimen of *P. paemosum*. The sample from 3766m, a core piece, proved to be barren and its lithology indicates that it belongs in the underlying Triassic interval. When its depth is corrected to a loggers' depth of approximately 3771m, it does in fact lie within the Triassic.

The presence of *P. paemosum* throughout this section indicates that this short interval is of latest Kimmeridgian age, and the assemblages can all be attributed to the *Scriniodinium luridum* Dinocyst Subzone (IXB) of the *Gonyaulacysta longicornis* Dinocyst Zone (IX).

VI(5) TRIASSIC

INTERVAL 3767m(log)-3972m(SWC); TRIASSIC

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

"Triassic Group" (part);

Skagerrak Formation (part).

Environment: continental, fluviatile and lacustrine.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break.

The age assigned to this interval is based on the following criteria:

- the lithologies present.
- regional knowledge.
- the age of the underlying interval.
- very limited palynological evidence.

PALYNOLOGY

The core piece analysed from 3768.10m was barren and most of the sidewall cores were either barren, or only contained palynomorphs derived from drilling mud contamination. The single specimen of *Apiculatasporites plicatus* from the sidewall core at 3884.80m is probably recycled in the drilling mud. Rare dark bisaccate pollen may be in situ in the sidewall core from 3938.50m and a single specimen of the striate bisaccate pollen genus *Striatoabieites* was observed in the impoverished palynoflora from 3954m(SWC). The ditch cuttings samples examined from this interval yielded no age-diagnostic taxa, but some of the dark bisaccate pollen may be in situ.

The presence of a specimen of the genus *Striatoabieites* would support a Triassic age but it does also occur in Permian strata. The Triassic age assigned to this interval is based mainly on the lithologies present, regional knowledge and the age assigned to the underlying interval.

INTERVAL 3972m(SWC)-4237m(log); MIDDLE - EARLY? TRIASSIC, MIDDLE ANISIAN -
?SKYTHIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

"Triassic Group" (part);
Skagerrak Formation (part).

Environment: continental, fluviatile and lacustrine.

The upper limit and age of this interval are based on the following palynological criteria:

- the appearance of *Illinites kosankei* and *Protodiploxylinus* cf. *sittlerii* with common *Apiculatasporites plicatus* in the sidewall core at 3972m.
- the subsequent occurrence of *Lunatisporites noviaulensis* var. *mollis* in the ditch cuttings sample at 4111m.

This interval rests unconformably on sediments of Late Permian age.

PALYNOLOGY

The sidewall core analysed from 3972m yielded a rich palynoflora which contained several Triassic palynomorphs in addition to dark bisaccate pollen of no age significance. The assemblage includes common *Apiculatasporites plicatus*, together with *Illinites kosankei*, *Protodiploxylinus* cf. *sittlerii*, *Granisaccus decus*, *Verrucosisporites pseudomorulae*, *Striatoabieites aytugii*, *Protohaploxylinus* sp., *Lunatisporites* spp. and indeterminate striate bisaccate pollen. *Apiculatasporites plicatus* occurs in several of the samples throughout this interval but the sidewall core from 4085m was barren, and that from 4233.20m contained only taxa derived from the drilling mud. The striate bisaccate pollen *Lunatisporites noviaulensis* var. *mollis* was recorded from the ditch cuttings sample at 4111m. Rare non-striate bisaccate pollen, which may be in situ, occur in some of the other samples treated from this interval and *G. decus* was recorded from 4111m and 4144.80m(SWC) and *G. cf. decus* from 4182m.

The presence of *Granisaccus decus* indicates the presence of Middle Triassic rocks of Ladinian - Anisian age. The occurrence, however, of *Illinites kosankei*, *Protodiplospinus* cf. *sittlerii* and *Apiculatasporites plicatus* indicates a middle Anisian age at the youngest for the top of this interval. No taxa indicative of an early Anisian or Early Triassic age have been encountered. A Middle - Early? Triassic, middle Anisian - ?Skythian age has therefore been assigned to this interval.

VI(6) PERMIAN

INTERVAL 4237m(log)-4320m T.D.; LATE PERMIAN

Lithostratigraphic Unit:

Zechstein Group.

Environment: marginal marine with hypersaline episodes.

The upper limit of this interval is based on a log break.

The age is based on the following criteria:

- the appearance of anhydrite.
- the position of the interval.
- regional knowledge.

PALYNOLOGY

Five ditch cuttings samples were analysed from this interval. Most of the taxa recovered are caved from post-Triassic strata although a few forms have definitely caved from the Triassic interval. Some of the bisaccate pollen, including indeterminate striate forms and specimens assigned to the genera Lunatisporites, Striatoabieites and Protohaploxypinus, may be in situ, but even these may all have caved from the overlying Triassic sediments. No palynomorphs indicative of a Late Permian age have been recorded and the age is based on the lithologies present, the position of the interval, and our regional knowledge.

VII

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APPENDIX 1

LITHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF SIDEWALL CORES

Depth (m)	Core No.	Recovery (mm)	Quality	Type of Analysis	Lithology
2517	36	45	good	M	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, slightly waxy, olive grey to olive black, slightly micromicaceous and non-calcareous.
2595	29	55	good	M	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, waxy, dark greenish grey, slightly micaceous, with traces of pyrite, non-calcareous.
2643	28	30	good	M	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, brownish black to olive black and slightly micromicaceous, non-calcareous.
2697	27	50	good	M	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, waxy, greenish grey with minor pale red, micromicaceous with traces of pyrite, non-calcareous.
2720	26	frags	fair	M	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, medium grey to dark greenish grey and slightly micromicaceous, non-calcareous.
2741	25	frags	poor	M	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, medium dark grey, slightly silty, ?tuffaceous, non-calcareous.
2760	24	frags	fair	M	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, slightly waxy, olive grey, slightly micromicaceous, non-calcareous.

2777	23	frags	fair	M	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, waxy, dark grey and slightly micromicaceous, non-calcareous.
2828	22	frags	fair	M	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, slightly waxy, olive grey and micromicaceous, non-calcareous.
2864	20	frags	poor	M N	<u>CALCAREOUS CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, waxy, olive grey, slightly micromicaceous and calcareous. Sample covered in drilling mud.
2892	19	frags	v. poor	M N	<u>DOLOMITIC SHALE</u> : moderately hard, light olive grey, micromicaceous and weakly calcareous. Sample covered in drilling mud.
3022	18	frags	fair	M N	<u>LIMESTONE</u> : moderately hard, crystalline, slightly chalky and very light grey.
3140	17	frags	fair	M N	<u>LIMESTONE</u> : moderately hard, chalky and white.
3282	16	frags	poor	M N	<u>ARGILLACEOUS LIMESTONE</u> : moderately hard, crystalline, greyish red, slightly argillaceous. Sample covered with drilling mud.
3352	15	frags	fair	M N	<u>SANDY CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, greyish red, with very fine to fine sand grains, glauconite and mica, highly calcareous.
3365	14	frags	fair	M N	<u>SANDY CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, olive grey, with silt and very fine sand, traces of glauconite and mica, highly calcareous.
3382	13	frags	fair	M N	<u>ARGILLACEOUS LIMESTONE</u> : moderately soft, olive grey, sandy, glauconitic and argillaceous.

3395	12	frags	v.poor	M N	<u>GLAUCONITIC LIMESTONE</u> : greenish grey to white. Sample covered with drilling mud.
3457	8	frags	fair	MPN	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : fairly friable, greyish red, very fine grained to silty, micaceous, argillaceous and highly calcareous.
3462	7	frags	fair	MP	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, greyish red to dusky red, micromicaceous and non-calcareous.
3475	6	frags	fair	MPN	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, dark greenish grey to dark grey, slightly micromicaceous with traces of pyrite, weakly calcareous.
3490	5	frags	fair	MPN	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, olive grey to medium dark grey, weakly to moderately calcareous.
3505	4	frags	fair	MP	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, olive grey, micaceous and dolomitic.
3520	3	frags	fair	MPN	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately soft, waxy, olive grey and weakly calcareous.
3535	2	frags	fair	MPN	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, medium dark grey to olive grey, micromicaceous and weakly calcareous.
3550	1	frags	fair	MPN	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, medium dark grey, micromicaceous and weakly calcareous.
3641	29	frags	fair	P	<u>SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, brownish black, slightly micromicaceous and calcareous.
3721.50	28	frags	fair	P	<u>SHALE</u> : as 3641m.

3724.50	27	frags	fair	P	<u>GLAUCONITIC SANDSTONE</u> : fairly friable, olive grey to medium light grey, very fine to fine grained, glauconitic, slightly argillaceous with traces of mica and strongly calcareous.
3728.80	25	frags	fair	P	<u>SILTY SHALE</u> : moderately hard, weakly fissile, brownish black, micromicaceous with silt and fine sand, calcareous.
3731	24	frags	poor		<u>GLAUCONITIC SANDSTONE</u> : friable, olive grey, very fine to fine grained, glauconitic, non-calcareous. Sample covered with drilling mud.
3773	23	frags	fair	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : friable, yellowish grey to light olive grey, very fine to fine grained, micaceous and slightly argillaceous, non-calcareous.
3775	22	frags	fair		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : as 3773m.
3783.50	21	30	fair	P	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, slightly waxy, dark reddish brown to greyish red, micromicaceous, non-calcareous.
3815	20	frags	fair	P	<u>SILTY CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, slightly waxy, greyish red with light grey, silty and sandy and locally highly micaceous, non-calcareous.
3833	19	frags	fair	P	<u>SILTY SHALE</u> : moderately hard, fissile, greenish grey to locally greyish red, highly micaceous and silty, non-calcareous, locally grading to <u>SILTSTONE</u> .

3843	18	25	fair	P	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, waxy, moderate reddish brown with traces of greenish grey, micaceous and slightly silty, non-calcareous.
3884.80	17	frags	fair	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS LIMESTONE</u> : moderately hard, light olive grey, micaceous, grading to <u>CALCAREOUS CLAYSTONE</u> .
3903.20	16	38	fair	P	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, slightly waxy, greyish red, micromicaceous, with traces of light grey, non-calcareous
3925.40	15	frags	fair	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : friable, pale reddish brown, very fine to fine grained, micaceous and slightly argillaceous, non-calcareous.
3938.50	14	frags	fair	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS DOLOMITE</u> : moderately hard, medium grey, micaceous and silty, grading to <u>DOLOMITIC CLAYSTONE</u> .
3954	13	frags	fair	P	<u>SILTY SHALE</u> : moderately hard, subfissile, medium grey to medium dark grey, micaceous and silty, non-calcareous.
3972	12	frags	poor	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : soft, greenish grey, very fine to fine grained, highly micaceous and argillaceous, non-calcareous. Sample covered in drilling mud.
4024.50	10	20	fair	P	<u>SILTY CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, dark reddish brown, silty, micromicaceous, non-calcareous.
4059	9	frags	fair	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : friable, moderate reddish brown, very fine to medium grained, slightly argillaceous, rare mica, non-calcareous.

4085	8	frags	fair	P	<u>SILTY CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, moderate to dark reddish brown, highly micaceous and silty, non-calcareous.
4144.80	7	frags	fair	P	<u>SILTY CLAYSTONE</u> : as 4085m
4147.40	6	frags	fair		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : friable, pale reddish brown to pale red, very fine to medium grained, slightly argillaceous, non-calcareous.
4155.70	5	frags	fair	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : fairly friable, moderate reddish brown, very fine to fine grained and slightly argillaceous, non-calcareous.
4169.70	4	frags	fair	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : as 4147.40m, slightly anhydritic.
4198	3	frags	fair	P	<u>CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, moderately reddish brown, micromicaceous and slightly silty, non-calcareous.
4233.20	2	frags	fair	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS LIMESTONE</u> : moderately hard, light olive grey, micaceous, grading to <u>CALCAREOUS SHALE</u> .
4236.50	1	frags	fair		<u>SILTY CLAYSTONE</u> : moderately hard, moderate reddish brown, micaceous and silty, non-calcareous.

KEY

M = Micropalaeontology
N = Nannofossils
P = Palynology
frags = Fragments

APPENDIX 2

LITHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF CORE PIECES

Depth (m)	Core No.	Type of Analysis	Lithology
3731	1	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey, fine to medium grained, subangular grains, argillaceous, ?kaolinitic with streaks and lenses of carbonaceous material, non-calcareous. Oil stained.
3732	1		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3731m with macrofossil debris (calcite, belemnite fragments) and traces of glauconite. Oil stained.
3733	1		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey to light olive grey, medium, subangular grains, traces of glauconite, slightly argillaceous with rare carbonaceous particles, non-calcareous. Oil stained.
3734	1	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey, fine to medium, subangular grains, glauconitic and slightly argillaceous with carbonaceous streaks, non-calcareous. Oil stained.
3735	1		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey, fine to medium grained with carbonaceous particles, rare glauconite, slightly argillaceous with macrofossil traces, non-calcareous. Oil stained.
3737	1	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3735m.
3738	1		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light grey to olive grey, fine grained with carbonaceous, argillaceous streaks, non-calcareous.

3739	1		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light olive grey, fine to medium grained, glauconitic, kaolinitic, non-oil stained, rare mica, calcite cemented, with calcite macrofossil debris (bivalves).
3739.60	2		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light olive grey to olive grey, fine to medium grained, slightly argillaceous, carbonaceous (patches and streaks), non-calcareous, locally oil stained.
3740	2		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light grey, fine grained, glauconitic, kaolinitic, with calcareous cement.
3740.38	2		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : as 3740m with carbonaceous streaks and slightly argillaceous.
3740.40	2		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light grey to olive grey, fine grained, with carbonaceous streaks and rare mica, non-calcareous.
3740.60	2		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented olive grey, fine to medium grained, glauconitic, slightly argillaceous (?kaolinitic - oil stained) and locally carbonaceous, non-calcareous.
3741.30	2		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey, fine grained, traces of glauconite and carbonaceous particles and slightly argillaceous, non-calcareous.
3741.70	3	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey, very fine to fine grained with carbonaceous, argillaceous and micaceous streaks, oil stained and locally calcareous cemented.
3743.70	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3741.70m, but olive grey to dark yellowish brown.
3745.10	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3741.70m, with macrofossils (bivalves).
3746.50	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3741.70m.

3748	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3741.70m but rare carbonaceous material.
3748.80	3	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3741.70m with lignite fragments and calcite macrofossil debris.
3750	3		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, brownish grey, fine to medium grained, angular to subangular grains, oil stained with argillaceous and carbonaceous laminae and macrofossil debris (bivalves).
3751.50	3		<u>CALCAREOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light grey, fine to medium grained with abundant macrofossil debris (calcite replaced, moderate brown), traces of lignite and rare galena and pyrite cements.
3752	3	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, dark yellowish brown, very fine to fine grained, with carbonaceous particles and rare macrofossil debris, non-calcareous.
3752.70	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3752m.
3754.50	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3752m.
3756.40	3		<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3752m.
3758.10	3	P	<u>ARGILLACEOUS SANDSTONE</u> : as 3752m.
3760	3		<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light olive grey to olive grey, fine to medium grained, slightly argillaceous, with carbonaceous particles, non-calcareous. Oil stained.
3760.10	4	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, light olive grey, fine to medium grained, ?kaolinitic, locally oil stained, with carbonaceous streaks and patches. non-calcareous.
3762.20	4	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, olive grey, very fine to fine grained, oil stained and slightly argillaceous, non-calcareous.
3766	4	P	<u>SANDSTONE</u> : well cemented, white to light greenish grey, very fine grained, highly micaceous, argillaceous with slickenside marks, non-calcareous.

3768.10 4

P

SANDSTONE: well cemented, light greenish grey,
very fine grained, highly micaceous, ?kaolinitic,
non-calcareous.

KEY

P = Palynology

APPENDIX 3

RYAZANIAN-ALBIAN DINOCYST ZONATION

GEOLOGICAL AGE			STANDARD AMMONITE ZONES	DINOCYST ZONATION				
				ZONES	SUBZONES			
EARLY CRETACEOUS	Albian	late	<i>dispar</i>	<i>Ovoidinium scabrosum</i>	OII	<i>Ovoidinium verrucosum</i>	OIIA	
			<i>inflatum</i>			<i>Apteodinium grande</i>	OIIB	
			<i>crisatum</i>			<i>Systematophora cretacea</i>	OIIC	
		middle	<i>lautus</i>			<i>Cauca parva</i>	OIID	
			<i>loricatus</i>					
			<i>dentatus</i>					
		early	<i>mamillatum</i>					
			<i>tardefurcata</i>					
		Aptian	late			<i>jacobi</i>	<i>Dingodinium albertii</i>	OI
	<i>nutfieldensis</i>			<i>Cyclonephelium tabulatum</i>	OIB			
	<i>martinioides</i>							
	early		<i>bowerbanki</i>					
			<i>deshayesi</i>					
			<i>forbesi</i>					
			<i>fissicostatus</i>					
	Barremian	late	<i>bidentatum</i>	<i>Sirmiodinium grossii</i>	I	<i>"Astrocysta" cretacea</i>	IA	
		early	mid.			<i>rude-fissicostatum</i>	<i>Doidyx anaphrissa</i>	IB
						<i>rarocinctum</i>	<i>Kleithrisphaeridium corrugatum</i>	IC
			<i>variabilis</i>			<i>Adnatospaeridium vetusculum</i>	OIA	
	Hauterivian	late	<i>marginatus</i>	<i>Subtilisphaera terrula</i>	II	<i>Canningia cf. reticulata</i>	OIB	
			<i>gottschei</i>			<i>Chlamydophorella trabeculosa</i>	IIIA	
			<i>speetonensis</i>			<i>"Oligosphaeridium" nannum</i>	IIIB	
		early	<i>inversus</i>					
			<i>regale</i>					
<i>noricum</i>								
Valanginian		late	<i>amblygonium</i>	<i>Phoberocysta neocomica</i>	IV	<i>Muderongia extensiva</i>	IVA	
			unnamed			<i>Tubotuberella apatela</i>	IVB	
		<i>pitrei</i>	<i>Endoscrinium dhapo</i>			IVC		
	<i>dichotamites</i>	<i>"Prolisosphaeridium" torynum</i>	VA					
Ryazanian	late	<i>polyptychites</i>	<i>Dingodinium spinosum</i>	V	<i>Dichadogonyaulax</i> spp.	VB		
		<i>paratolia</i>			<i>Cannosphaeropsis</i> sp. A	VC		
	<i>albidum</i>							
	<i>stenomphalus</i>							
	early	<i>iceni</i>						
<i>kochi</i>								
<i>runctoni</i>								

* The Barremian/Hauterivian boundary should now be placed at the top of the *marginatus* Zone (Rawson, in press).

GEOLOGICAL AGE		STANDARD AMMONITE ZONES	DINOCYST ZONATION				
			ZONES	SUBZONES			
LATE JURASSIC	Volgian	late	<i>lamplughii</i>	"Imbatodinium" villosum VI	<i>Egmontodinium</i> sp. A VIA		
			<i>prepicomphalus</i>		<i>Kleithrisphaeridium</i> sp. A VIB		
			<i>primitivus</i>		<i>Systematophora</i> spp. VIC		
			<i>oppressus</i>		<i>Dichadogonyaulax panna</i> VIIA		
		middle	<i>giganteus</i>	<i>Muderongia</i> sp. A VII	<i>Dichadogonyaulax culmula</i> VIIIB		
			<i>gorei</i>		<i>Glossodinium dimorphum</i> VIIC		
			<i>albani</i>		<i>Pareodinia mutabilis</i> VIII	<i>Gonyaulacysta pennata</i> VIIIA	
			<i>Epipallasiceras</i> sp.			<i>Gonyaulacysta jurassica</i> VIIIB	
			<i>rotunda</i>			<i>Gonyaulacysta longicornis</i> IX	<i>Egmontodinium polyplacophorum</i> IXA
			<i>pallasioides</i>				<i>Scriniodinium luridum</i> IXB
		early	<i>Pavlovia</i> sp.	<i>Gonyaulacysta cladophora</i> X			
			<i>pectinatus</i>				
			<i>hudlestoni</i>				
	<i>wheatleyensis</i>						
	<i>scitulus</i>						
	Kimmeridgian	<i>elegans</i>	<i>Scriniodinium crystallinum</i> XI	<i>Leptodinium egemenii</i> XIA			
		<i>autissiodorensis</i>		<i>Stephanelytron redcliffense</i> XIB			
		<i>eudoxus</i>		<i>Scriniodinium oxfordianum</i> XIIA			
		<i>mutabilis</i>		<i>Compositosphaeridium costatum</i> XIIIB			
		<i>cymodoce</i>					
	Oxfordian	late	<i>baylei</i>	<i>Scriniodinium galeritum</i> XII	<i>Gonyaulacysta araeolata</i> XIVA		
			<i>pseudocordata</i>		<i>Wanaea fimbriata</i> XIVB		
			<i>decipiens</i>		<i>Mendicodinium groenlandicum</i> XIVC		
		middle	<i>cautisnigrae</i>	<i>Acanthaulax spinosissima</i> XIII	<i>Kalyptea stegasta</i> XV A		
			<i>transversarium</i>		<i>Nannoceratopsis pellucida</i> XV B		
	early	<i>plicatilis</i>					
	Callovian	late	<i>cordatum</i>	<i>Wanaea digitata</i> XIV	<i>Dichadogonyaulax gochtii</i> XVIIA		
			<i>mariae</i>				
		middle	<i>athleta</i>	<i>Polystephanephorus paracalathus</i> XV	<i>Wanaea acollaris</i> XVII B		
			<i>coronatum</i>		<i>Gonyaulacysta filipicata</i> XVII C		
		early	<i>macrocephalus</i>				
		MIDDLE JURASSIC	Bathonian	late	<i>discus</i>	<i>Pareodinia ceratophora</i> XVI	
	<i>aspidoides</i>						
	<i>retrocostatum</i>						
	middle			<i>morrisi</i>			
<i>subcontractus</i>							
early	<i>progracilis</i>						
Bajocian	late		<i>zigzag</i>	<i>Nannoceratopsis spiculata</i> XVII			
			<i>parkinsoni</i>				
			<i>garantiana</i>				
			<i>subfurcatum</i>				
	middle		<i>humphriesianum</i>	<i>Polysphaeridium deflandrei</i> XVIII A			
			<i>saenzii</i>				
			<i>laeviuscula</i>				
		<i>discites</i>					
early	<i>concaevum</i>						
	<i>murchisonae</i>						
EARLY JURASSIC	Toarcian	late	<i>opalinum</i>	<i>Nannoceratopsis gracilis</i> XVIII	<i>Mancodinium semitabulatum</i> XVIII B		
			<i>levesquei</i>				
			<i>thouarsense</i>				
		middle	<i>variabilis</i>				
			<i>bifrons</i>				
	early	<i>falciferum</i>	"Sphaeromorphs" XVIII C				
	Pliensbachian	late	<i>tenuicostatum</i>	<i>Polysphaeridium langii</i> XIX	<i>Luehndea spinosa</i> XVIII D		
			<i>spinatum</i>				
		early	<i>margaritatus</i>				
			<i>davoei</i>		Unnamed subzone XIX A		
	Sinemurian	late	<i>ibex</i>				
			<i>jamesoni</i>	<i>Liasidium variabile</i> XIX B			
		early	<i>rericostatum</i>				
<i>oxynotum</i>			Unnamed subzone XIX C				
Hettangian	late	<i>obtusum</i>					
		<i>turneri</i>					
		<i>semicostatum</i>					
Rhaetian	early	<i>bucklandi</i>					
		<i>angulata</i>	<i>Dapcodinium priscum</i> XIX D				
		<i>liasicus</i>					
		<i>planorbis</i>					
LATE TRIASSIC	Rhaetian		<i>Rhaetogonyaulax rhaetica</i> XX				

LITHOLOGIES

Clay	
Shale/mudstone	
Siltstone	
Sand/sandstone, very fine to medium grained	
Sand/sandstone, coarse grained to granules	
Conglomerate (with sand matrix)	
Conglomerate (without sand matrix)	
Coal/lignite	
Breccia	
Limestone (undifferentiated)	
Chalky limestone	

Dolomitic limestone	
Calcareous dolomite	
Dolomite	
Chert	
Anhydrite/gypsum	
Salt (halite)	
Potassium salts	
Concretions/nodules	
Igneous rocks, undifferentiated	
Basement, undifferentiated	
Granite	

Qualifiers

Argillaceous	
Silty/sandy	
Pebbly	
Carbonaceous	
Calcareous	
Dolomitic	
Red sediments	

Accessories

Calcite	C
Ironstone/ferruginous deposits	Fe
Glaucinite	Gl
Kaolinite	K
Phosphate	Ph
Pyrite	Py
Siderite/sphaerosiderite	S
SilicaSi

GRAIN TYPES

Oolith	
Fossils in general	
Bioclastic debris	
Mudflakes	

Other symbols

Sample gap	
Lost circulation material	lcm
Cement	cmt
Turbo drilling or diamond bit drilling (Samples unsuitable for good stratigraphic analysis)	.tu
Casing point	
Core	
Sidewall core	
Sidewall core (analysed for biostratigraphy)	
Sidewall core (no recovery)	

BIOSTRATIGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

Fossil Abundances	}	Present	○
		Common	●
		Abundant	■
Diagnostic forms	*		
Caved forms	C		
Reworked forms	R		
Incoming of			
Outgoing of			
Unconformity/stratigraphic hiatus			
Faulted boundary	F—F		
LateLT., lt.		
MiddleM., m.		
EarlyEY., ey.		

FIGURE 1 – Legend (edited from Robertson Research Standard Legend).

FIGURE 2
DEPOSITIONAL HISTORY

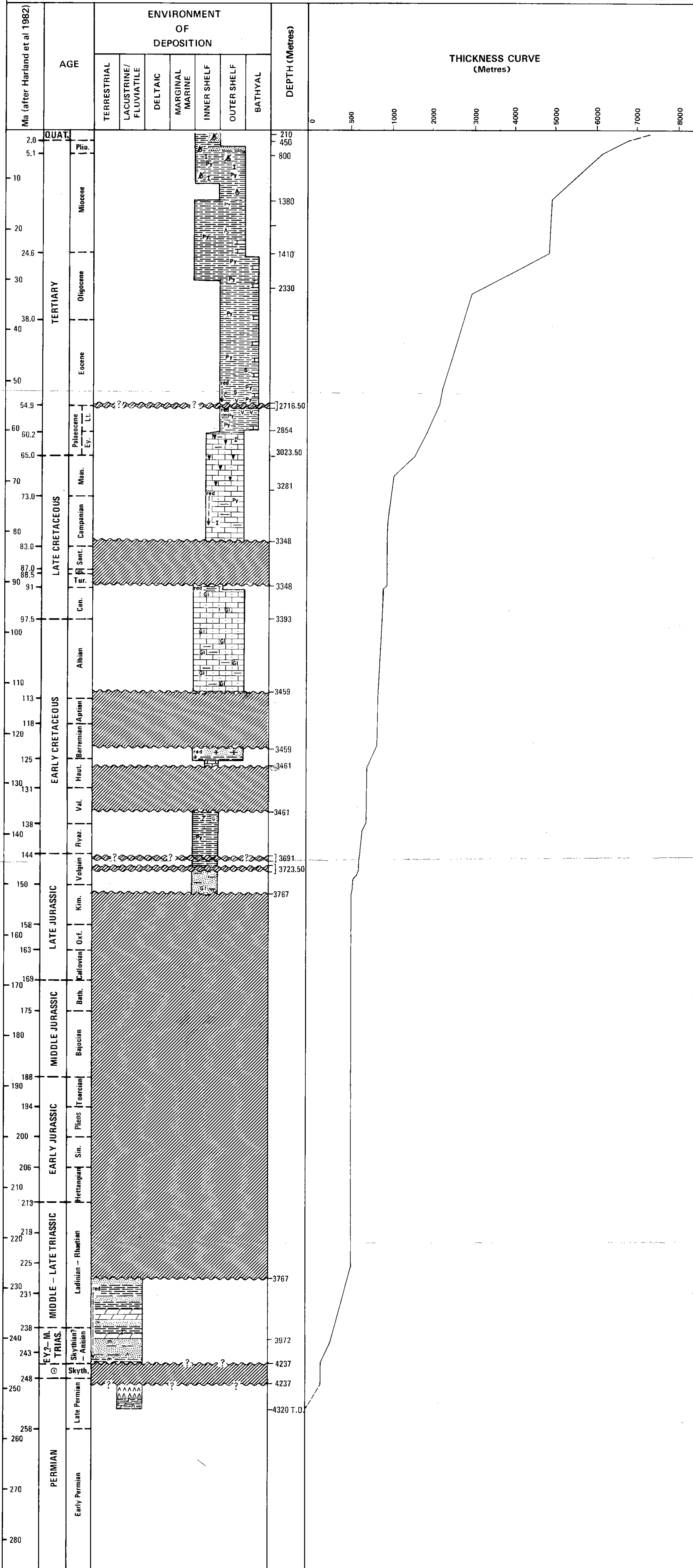


ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

CONOCO 7/8-3

Drg. No. 049P/1007/5650

Date: FEBRUARY 1984



Header section containing well name 'BERTON WEA 54013', location 'NORTHSEA', and completion date '20 SEPTEMBER 1982'.

Main data table with columns for depth (0-3000 ft), lithology (e.g., PLIOCENE, PLEISTOCENE), and well logs.

Summary section with columns for depth (0-3000 ft) and various log parameters.