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Play Elements of the Chidley Basin, offshore Newfoundland and Labrador Canada

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Chidley basin, Labrador

The Chidley Basin is a Mesozoic sedimentary basin located in the Labrador Sea. The Labrador Sea is an arm of the North Atlantic Ocean between Labrador and Greenland





On November, 2016 the C-NLOPB announced the Call for Bids NL16-CFB03 with closing date to be determined

Geodynamic context



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Geodynamic context

- Successive rift episodes associated with the northward opening of the North Atlantic Ocean continued toward the north in the Labrador Sea where extension occurred during late Cretaceous:
 - Hyper extended rift basin (140 Ma (syn-rift basalt of the Alexis Fm) to C34)
 - Thin continental crust to exhumed mantle





Based on Artemieva & Thybo, 2013; Hosseinpour et al. 2013; Lundin and Dore 2011; Doré & Lundin, 2015 and GeoArctic 2013).

The study area is crossed by Cartwright Fracture Zone

 Segmenting the rifted basin by about 20Myrs (oceanic crust age)



Objective and settings

- The South Labrador margin is composed of the Hopedale Basin in the shelf and the Chidley basin in the distal part of the margin
- The major period of exploration on the Labrador margin was in the 1970s and 1980s.
- Five discoveries were made in the Hopedale Basin
- Marine shales are usually immature on the shelf but are buried at greater depths in the slope and deepwater regions.



Objective and settings

- Test the prospectivity of the area through a reassessment of the potential play in the Cretaceous and Tertiary strata; offshore actual producing fields
- The dataset includes
 - Nine wells
 - 2D seismic surveys
 - A set of ten seismic horizons
- Ultimately these plays will be tested for oil and gas potential within a petroleum system model



bids

Beicip-Franlab and Nalcor Workflow



Well stratigraphy

All geological information (markers, well reports and well logs) were integrated and interpreted in terms of sedimentology and petrophysics in order to provide a consistent stratigraphic framework



2D stratigraphic & facies analysis



• Structural interpretation performed:





Tertiary structural reconstruction



Validates the structural and time horizon interpretation

Constrains Paleo-bathymetries used in the sedimentary model

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- A major detachment within C54 layer (Paleocene shales)
- A listric faults and toe-thrusts system detached on the Paleocene level
- Gravity-driven system active between 34 Ma and 24 Ma



2D stratigraphic & facies analysis



- Key stratigraphic surfaces by recognizing successive offlap break position & truncation geometries
- successive systems tracts bounded by key stratigraphic surfaces
- successive sequence packages using available biostratigraphic markers
- Regional sequences with alternating regressive and transgressive trends 2018 Conjugate Margins Conference

2D stratigraphic & facies analysis



Facies dress-up using combined well information and seismic geomorphological elements

Gross Depositional Environment maps

Syn-rift phase (diachronous)

Stage1 (Berriasian) (non marine)



Stage 2 (Valanginian-Barremian) North CFZ Opening (marine to the south)



Stage3 (Aptian-Albian) Marine transgression to the North



Rift related Lacustrine/fluvio-deltaic environments transitioning to distal turbidite complexes with progressive marine transgression

Channel systems have a broad NW flow direction and are sourced by local horst erosion



Alluvial fan
Silty lobe
Sandy lobe
Erosive channel/canyon
Sedimentary pathway/channel
Hypothetical sedimentary pathway
Slump / debris flow

- Future oceanic crust boundary
- Transform fault zone
- Normal faults
- Reverse faults
- Well
 - Flow direction

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Gross Depositional Environment maps

Post-rift phase



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Flow direction