

The sedimentology of the Mio-Pliocene clastic deposits of eastern Sabah and implications for offshore hydrocarbon potential

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Five exploration blocks remain open in the onshore and nearshore of eastern Sabah, and overall the area is relatively under-explored in terms of hydrocarbons. Potential reservoirs include structural and stratigraphic traps within the sandstones of both Tanjong and Sandakan Formations, and more significantly structural traps in the Ganduman Formation to the South and in the offshore. Extensive fieldwork, undertaken between 1995 and 2001, has led to an in depth understanding of the sedimentology of these Miocene and Pliocene clastic deposits onshore, and facilitated detailed palaeogeographic reconstructions. This knowledge can be used to assess the implications for hydrocarbon potential in the nearshore Sulu Sea.