

# **Emerging Shale and Tight-Sand Plays, Perth Basin, Western Australia\***

**Ameed Ghori<sup>1</sup>**

Search and Discovery Article #10849 (2016)\*\*

Posted July 5, 2016

\*Adapted from oral presentation given at AAPG Asia Pacific Region, Geosciences Technology Workshop, Characterization of Asian Hydrocarbon Reservoirs, Bangkok, Thailand, March 31 - April 1, 2016

\*\*Datapages © 2016 Serial rights given by author. For all other rights contact author directly.

<sup>1</sup>Geological Survey of Western Australia, East Perth, WA, Australia ([Ameed.GHORI@dmp.wa.gov.au](mailto:Ameed.GHORI@dmp.wa.gov.au))

## **Abstract**

Exploration of shale petroleum in the Perth Basin was driven by the rapid increase in shale gas production in the US after 2005. Since the early 70s, hydrocarbon trapped within the source rocks was known and addressed in many publications, but the production of these hydrocarbons was proved when US gas reserves globally rated the highest in 2009. Production from these reservoirs has changed the position of the US from importer to exporter; it achieved the world's highest oil and gas production in 2014. In shale reservoir, trapping mechanisms are typically subtle and cover large basinal areas; the timing of charge versus trap formation is not as critical as it is in conventional reservoir systems. The US achieved production from shale reservoirs by using a combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing. The geological understanding and petroleum prospectivity of the Perth Basin is gradually growing with regard to tight and conventional reservoirs. The Perth Basin has a well-developed infrastructure to explore and exploit shale petroleum resources.

## **Reference Cited**

Saucier, H., 2015, How the U.S. Became the World's Top Producer: AAPG Explorer, June 2015, Web Accessed June 19, 2016, <http://www.aapg.org/publications/news/explorer/details/articleid/20368/how-the-u-s-became-the-world>



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Mines and Petroleum**

# Emerging Shale and Tight-sand Plays, Perth Basin Western Australia

Ameed Ghori

AAPG GTW “Characterization of Asian Hydrocarbon Reservoirs”  
Bangkok, Thailand

Friday 1 April 2016: 1:40 – 2:05 PM



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Mines and Petroleum**

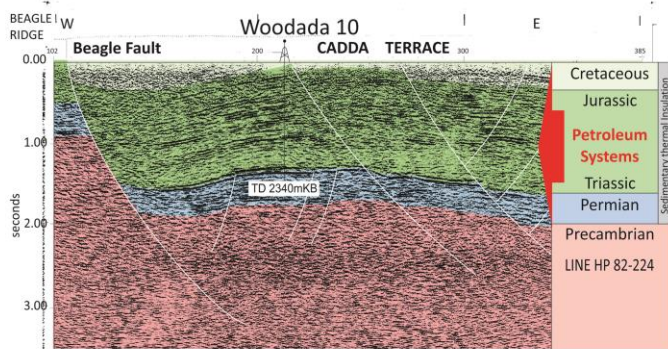
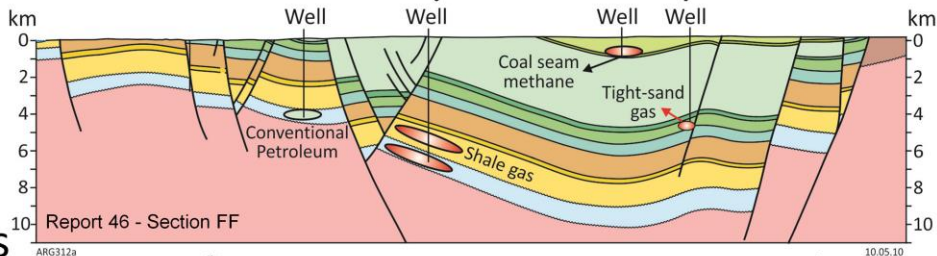
Geological Survey of  
Western Australia



# Presentation - Overview

## Petroleum Systems Concepts

- Perth Basin
- Tight-Reservoirs
- Shale-play modelling
- Petroleum production
- Conclusions



# Presentation Overview



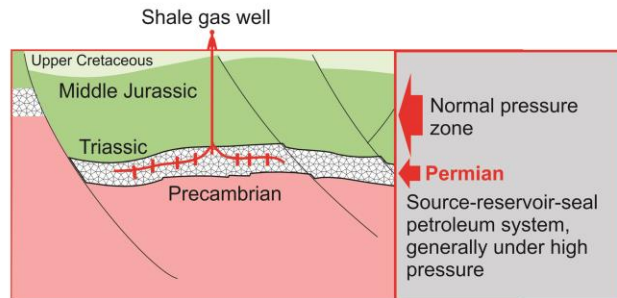
## ➤ Perth Basin

## ➤ Tight-Reservoirs

## ➤ Shale-play modelling

## ➤ Petroleum production

## ➤ Conclusions

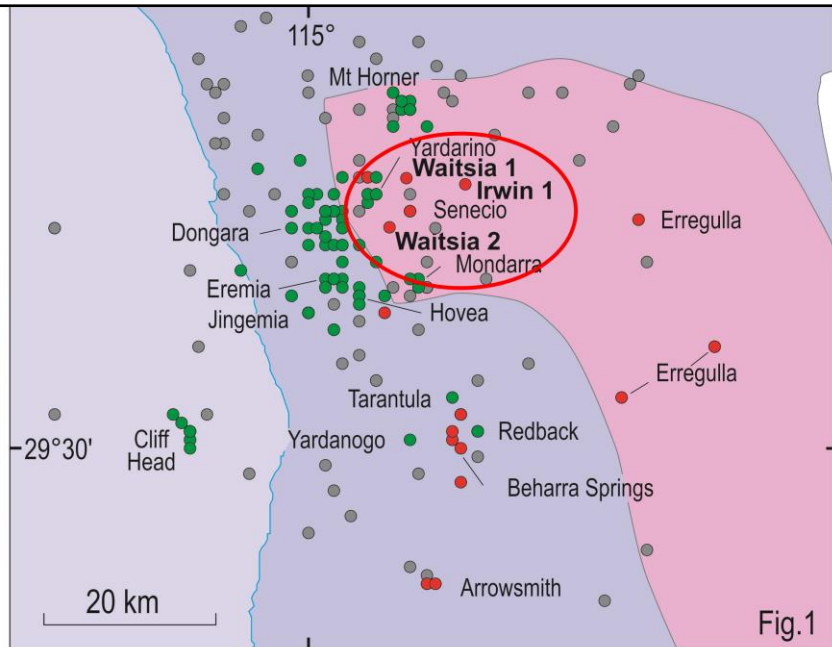
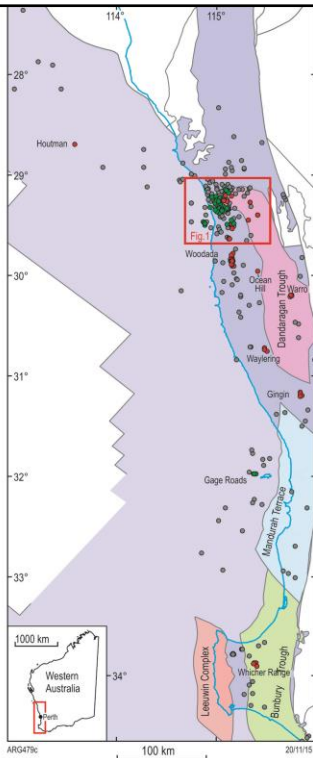


# Tectonic Units

Dandaragan Trough

Mandurah Terrace

Bunbury Trough



Well drilled

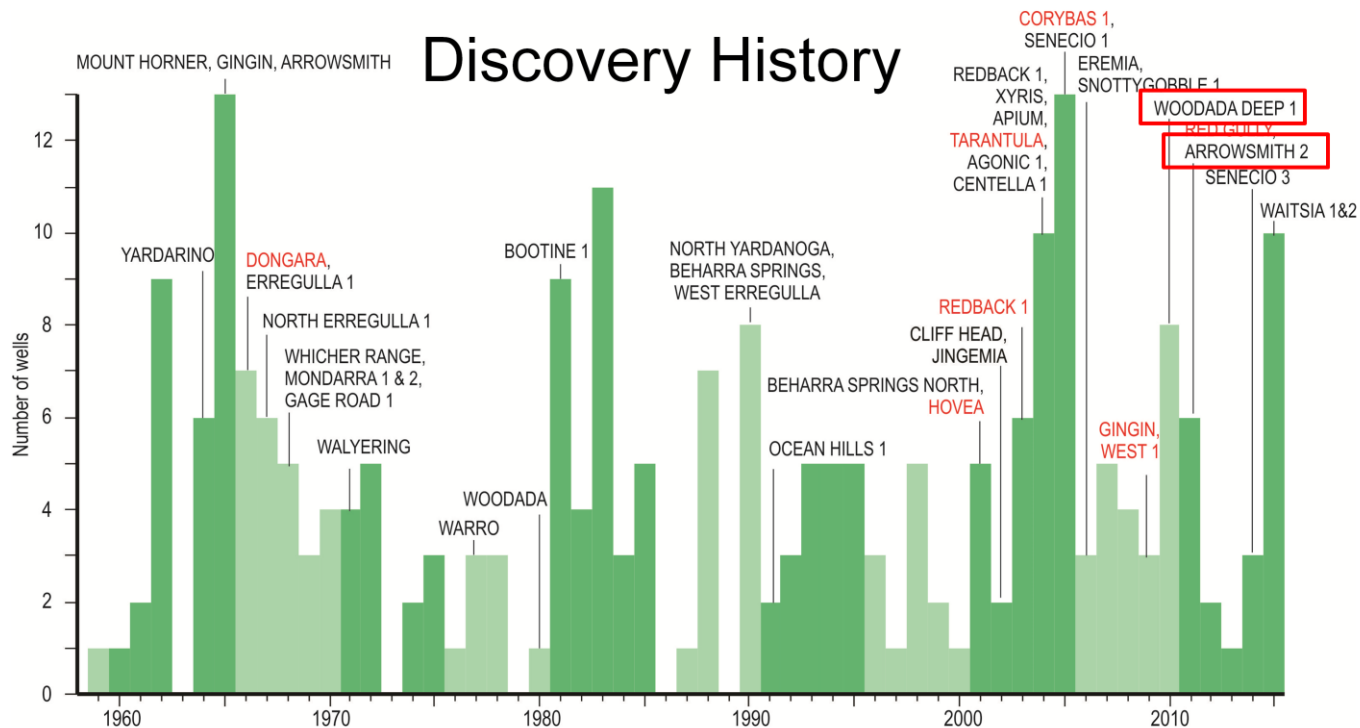
Oil discovery or significant shows

Gas discovery or significant shows

Perth Basin (onshore/offshore)



# Discovery History





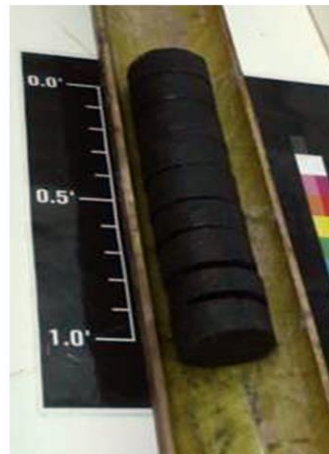
# Woodada Deep 1



**Gas Flare - 11 August 2012**



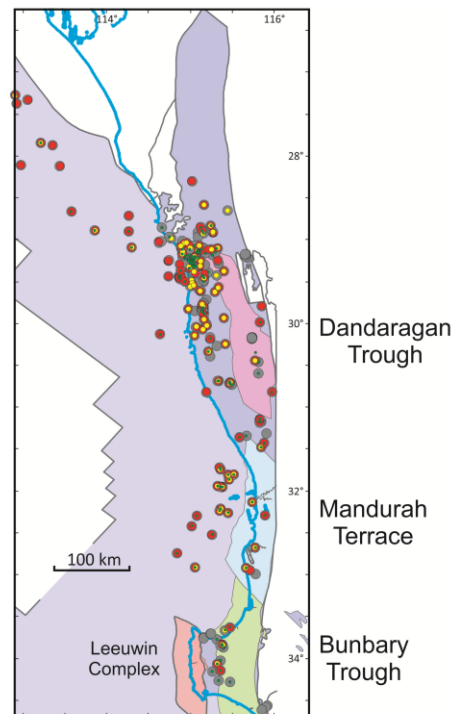
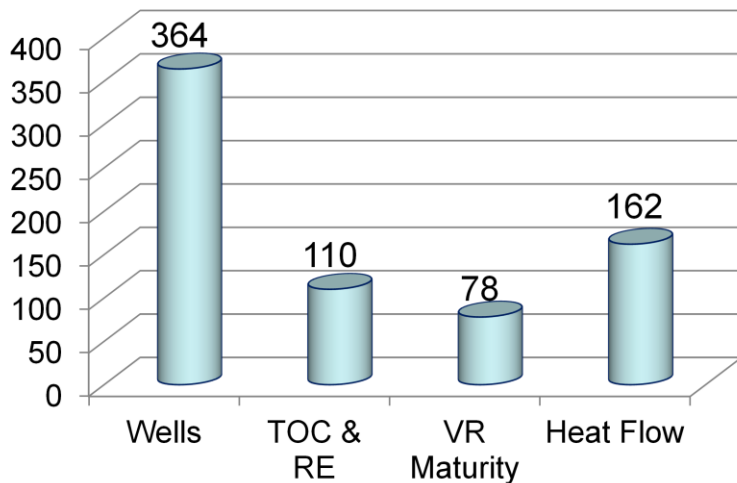
**Triassic Core**





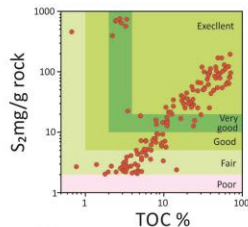
# Perth Basin

## Data Distribution

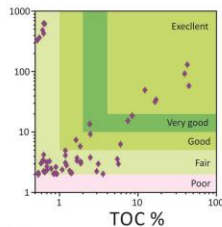


# Source Rock Quality Potential

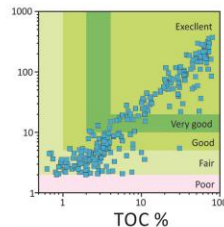
## Permian



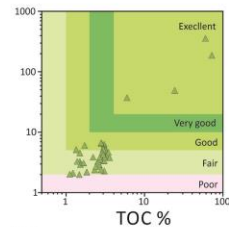
## Triassic



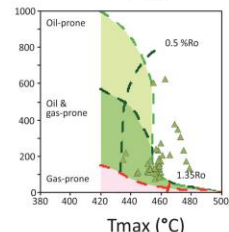
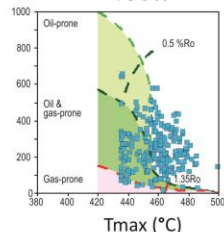
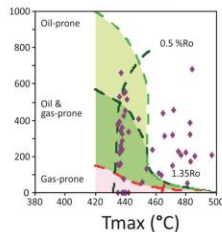
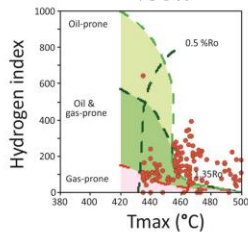
## Jurassic



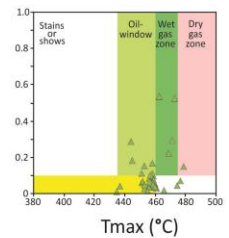
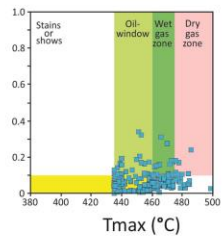
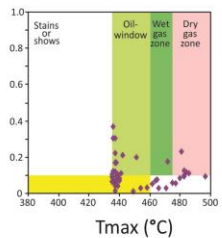
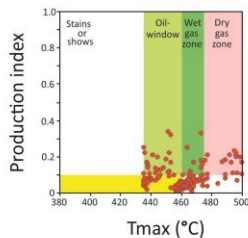
## Cretaceous

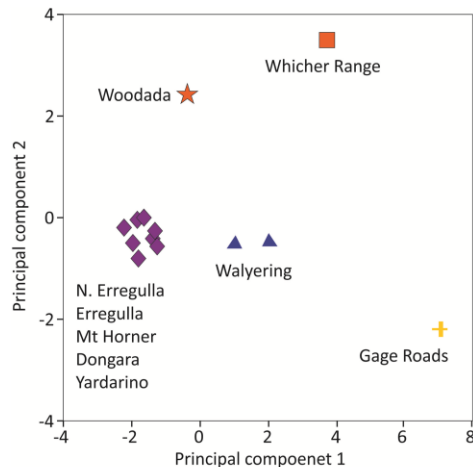


# Facies

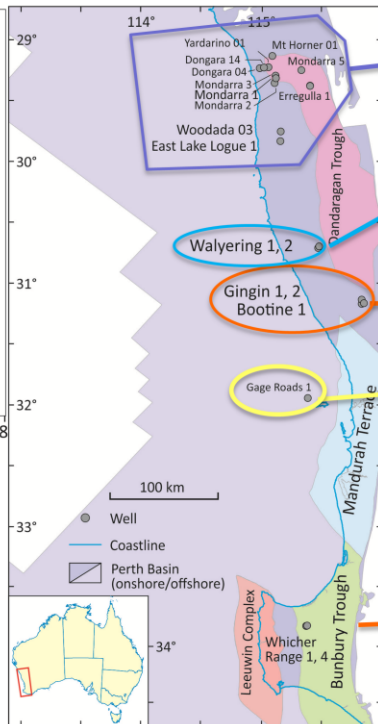


# Maturity





- ★ Permian or mixed sourced
- Permian sourced
- ◆ Triassic sourced
- ▲ Jurassic sourced
- ✚ Cretaceous sourced



Triassic

Jurassic

Permian

Cretaceous

Petroleum Systems  
Distribution

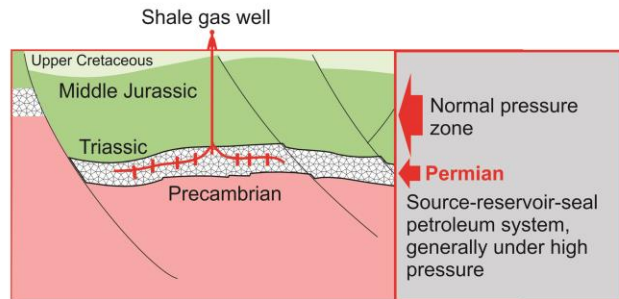
Permian

Data source: AGSO & GeoMark 1996 GA 2005

# Presentation Overview

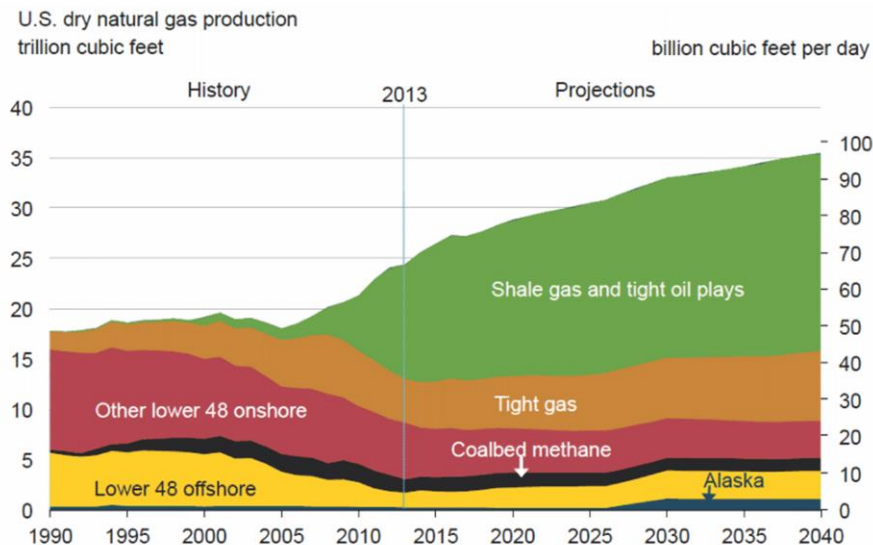


- Perth Basin
- Tight-Reservoirs
- Shale-play modelling
- Petroleum production
- Conclusions



# Shale-plays

## United States



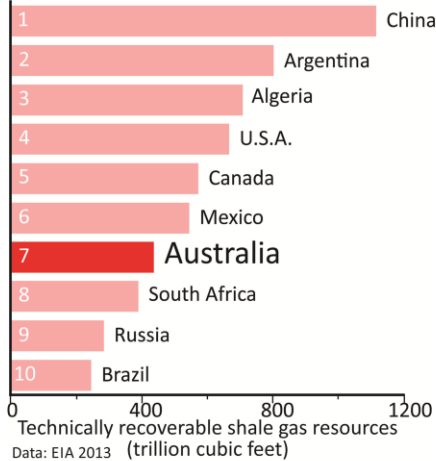
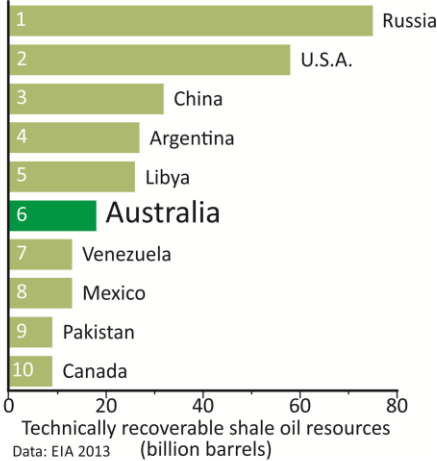
Boom inception 2005 – World's largest oil and gas producer 2014

AAPG Explorer June 2015

# Shale Petroleum

95 basins - 137 Shale Formations - 42 countries

## Oil - top ten countries - Gas



Status

**Exploring**

Developing

**Exploring**

Developing

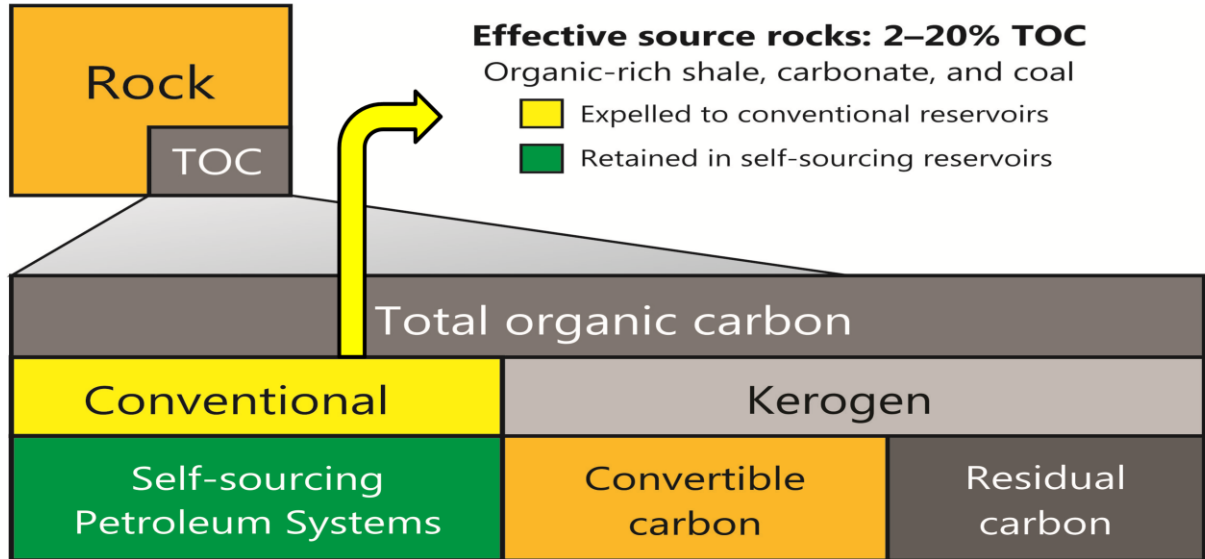
Developing

**Exploring**

**Exploring**

# Self-sourcing

# Petroleum System

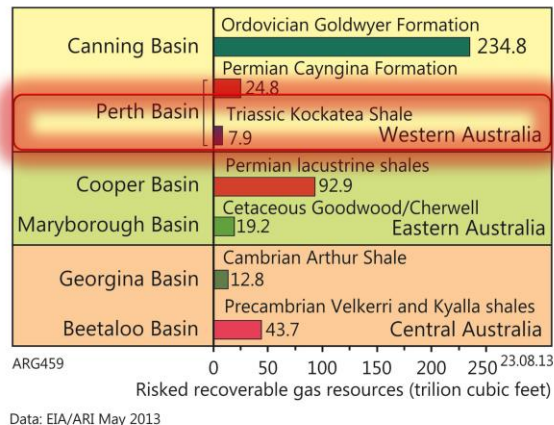
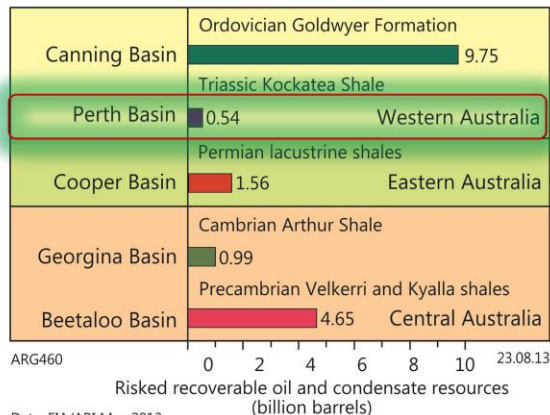




# Shale Petroleum Australia



## Oil - Australian basin- Gas



# Fracturing Quality - Petrography

## Permian Carynginia Formation

Redback 1: 3762.00 m

TOC = 2.38%

Ro = 1.40%

Brittleness: 0.38

## Triassic Kockatea Shale

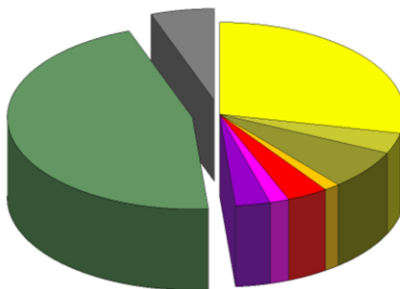
Redback 2: 3788.52 m

TOC = 2.29%

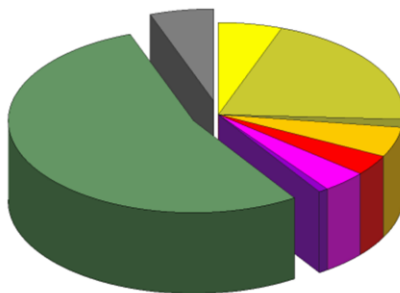
Ro = 1.32%

Brittleness: 0.29

Permian Carynginia Formation



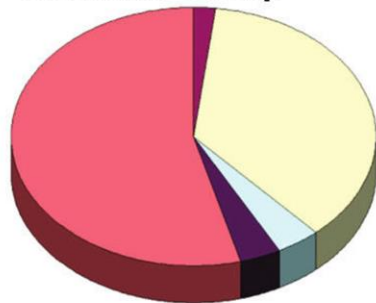
Triassic Kockatea Shale



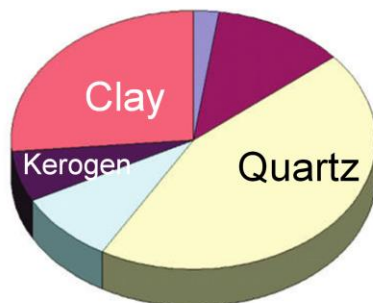
### Composition

- Quartz
- K-Feldspar
- Plagioclase
- Calcite
- Zeolite
- Pyrite
- Sylvite
- Vclay
- Kerogen

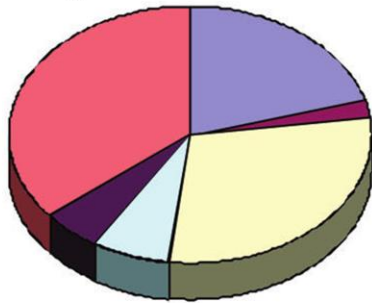
**Colorado Group**



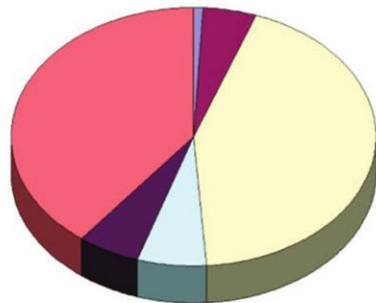
**Barnett**



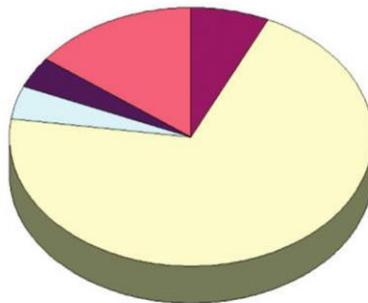
**Haynesville**



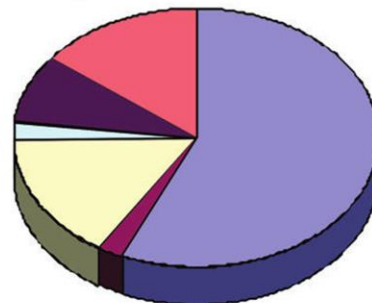
**Marcellus**



**Muskwa**



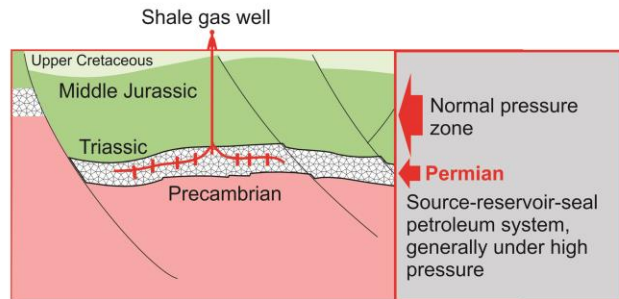
**Eagle Ford**



# Presentation Overview



- Perth Basin
- Tight-Reservoirs
- **Shale-play modelling**
- Petroleum production
- Conclusions

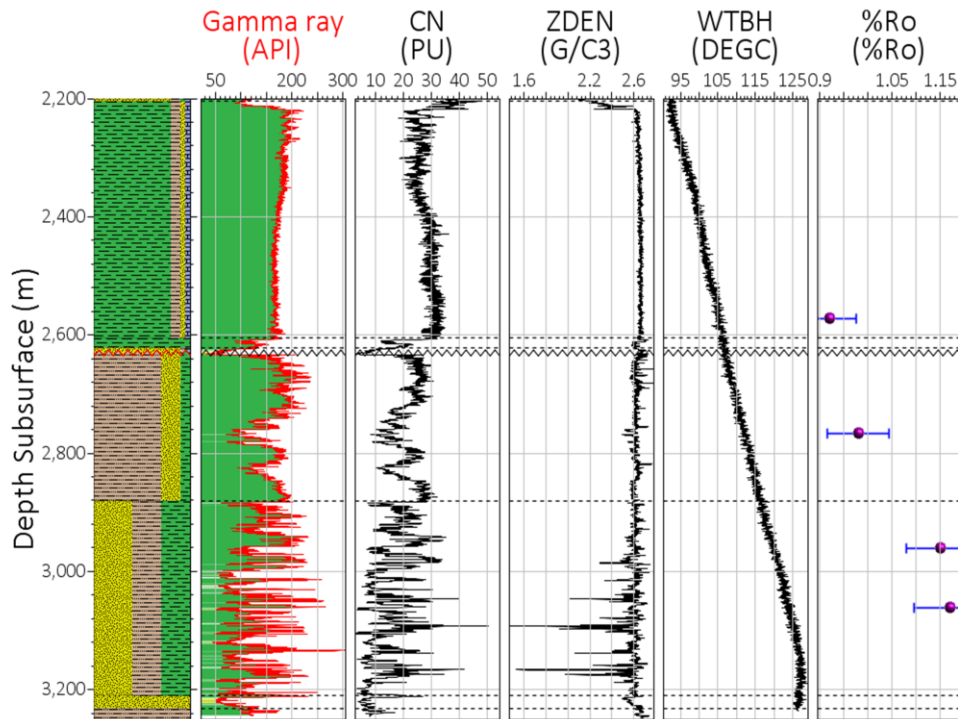


# Shale-plays Modelling – Arrowsmith 2

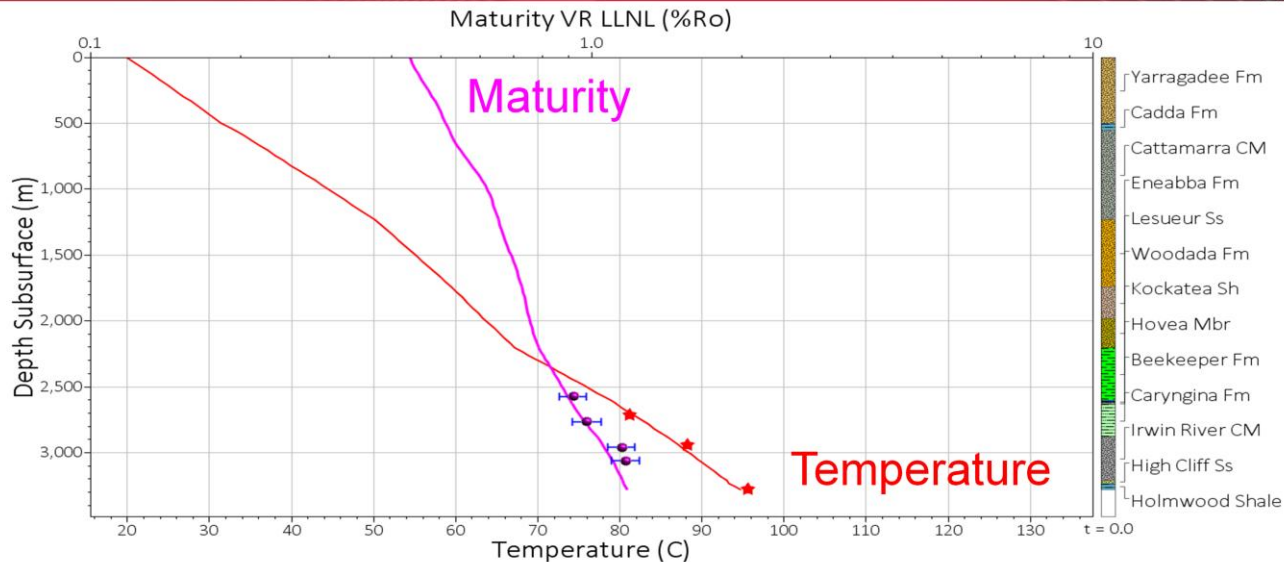


- Petroleum generation modelling plays a critical role in assessing richness of self-contained (source-reservoir-seal) petroleum systems:
  - Organic-richness and maturity
  - Source-rock trapped hydrocarbon-richness
  - Source-rock fracturing quality (clay-richness)

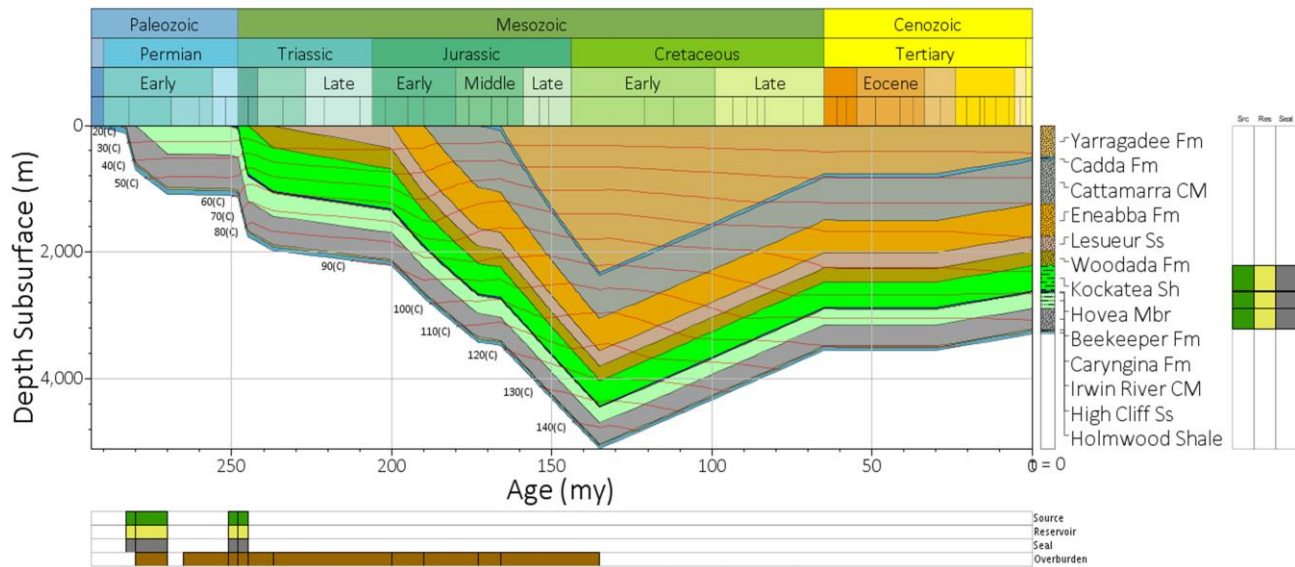
# Arrowsmith 2



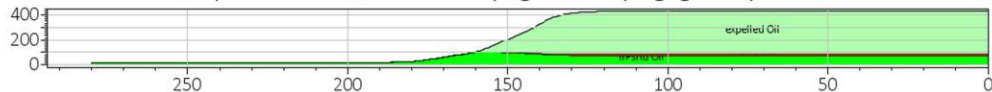
# Arrowsmith 2 – Maturity Modelling

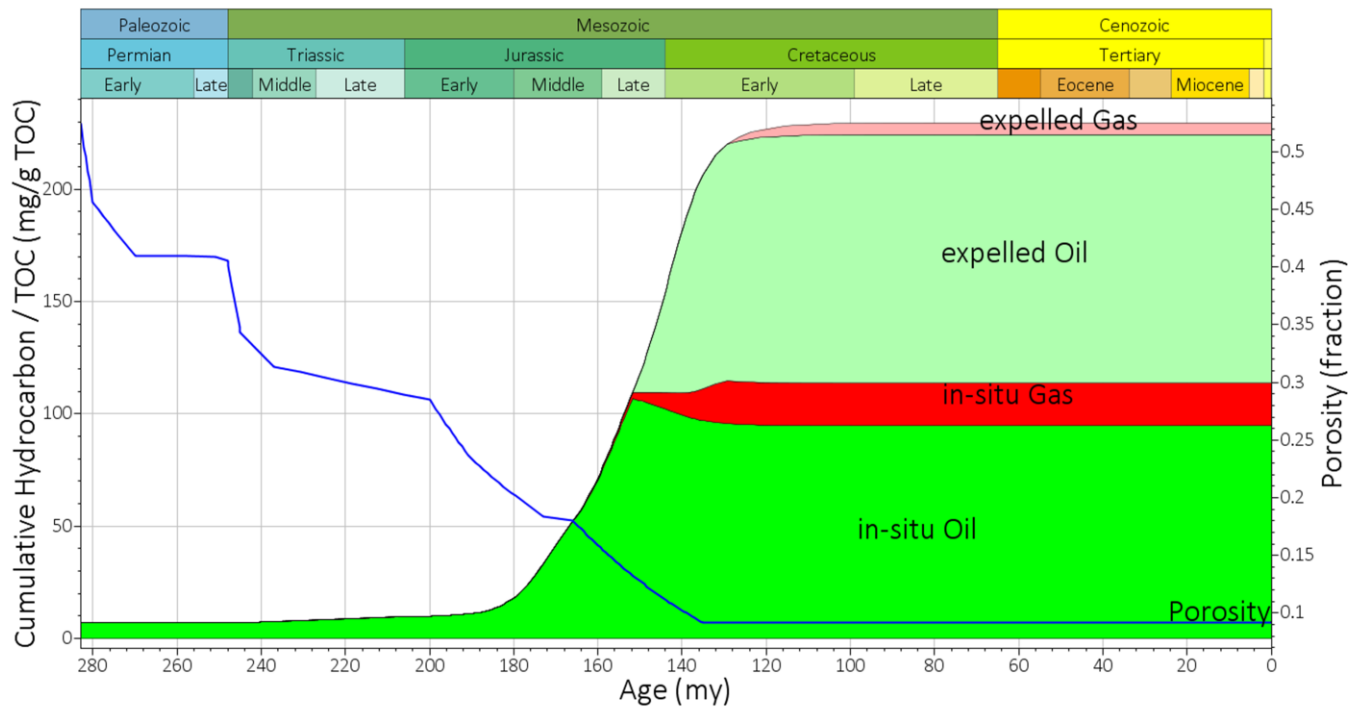




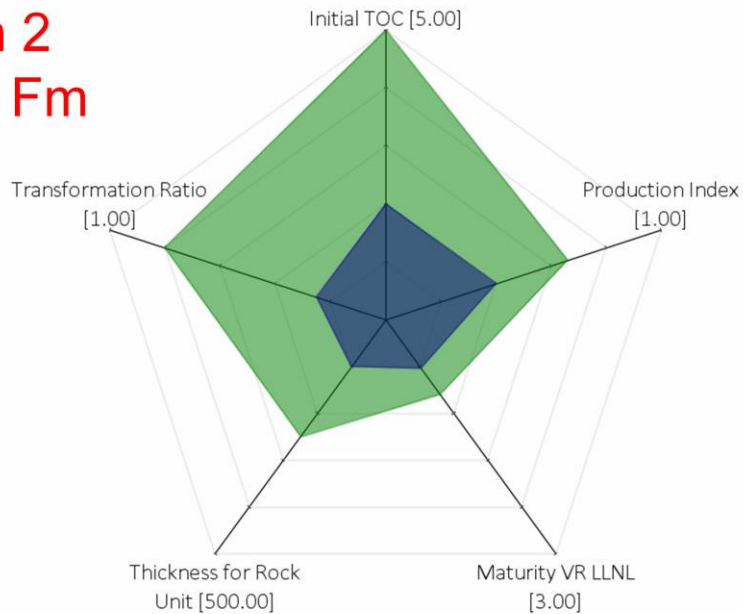


### Cumulative Hydrocarbon / TOC - Caryngina Fm (mg/g TOC)



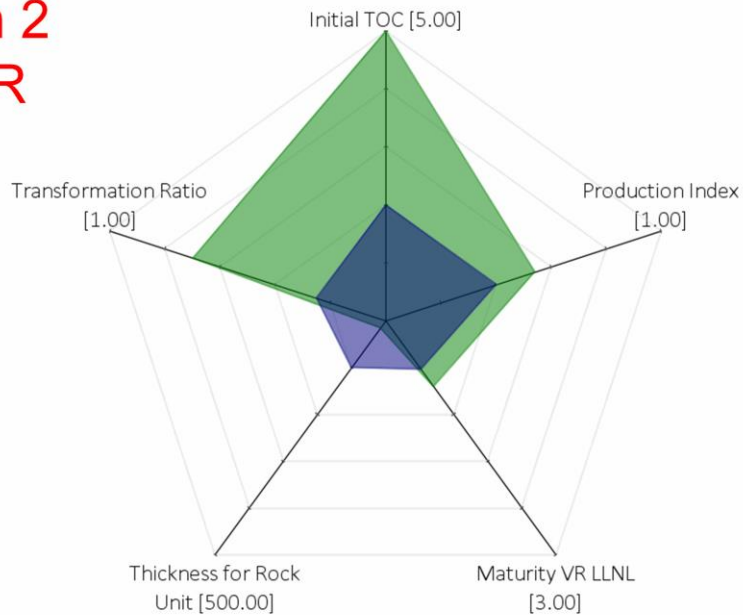


# Arrowsmith 2 Carynginia Fm

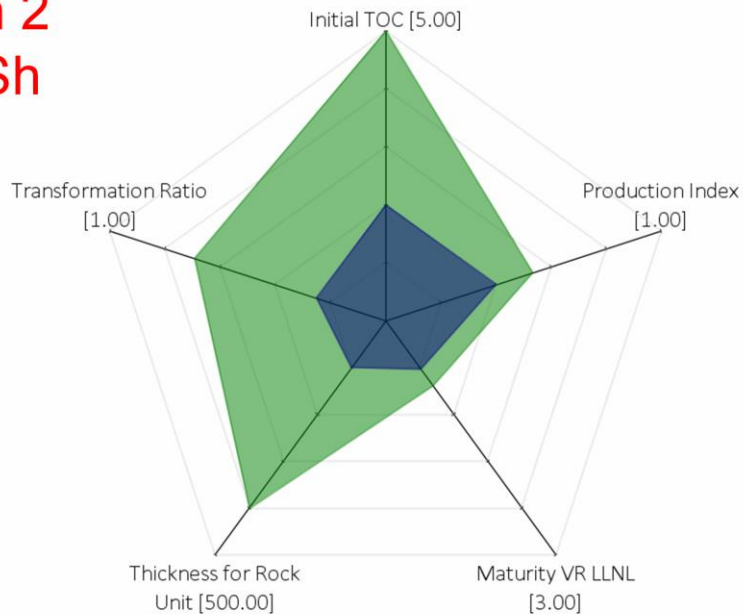


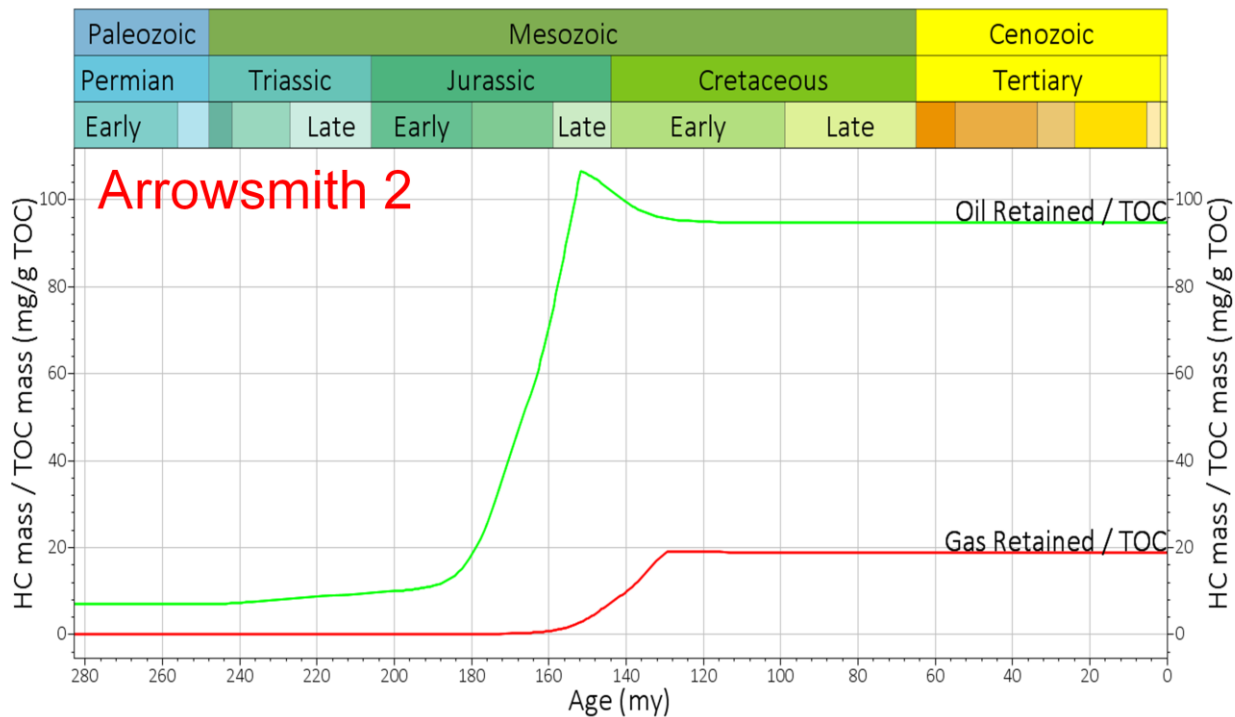
# Arrowsmith 2

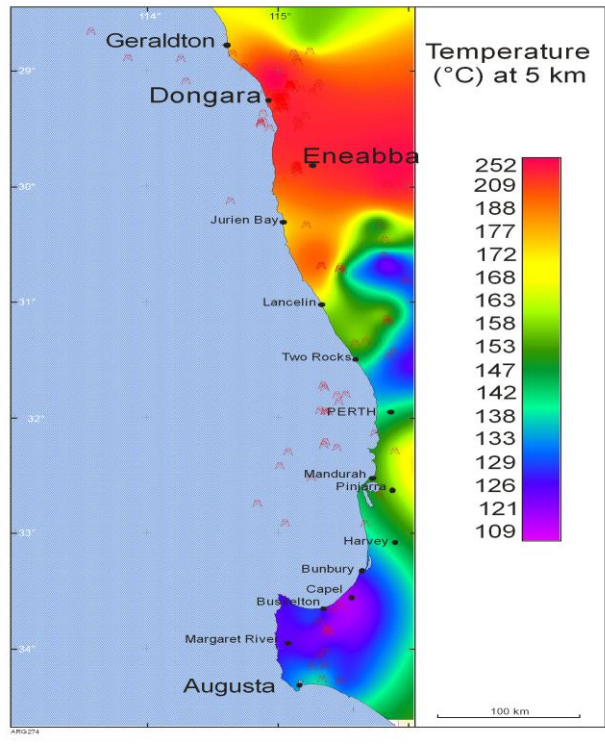
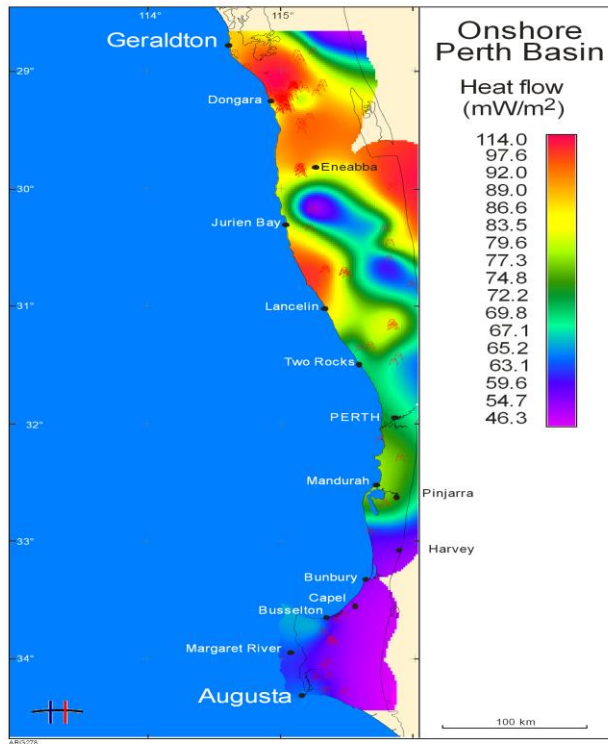
## Hovea MBR



# Arrowsmith 2 Kockatea Sh





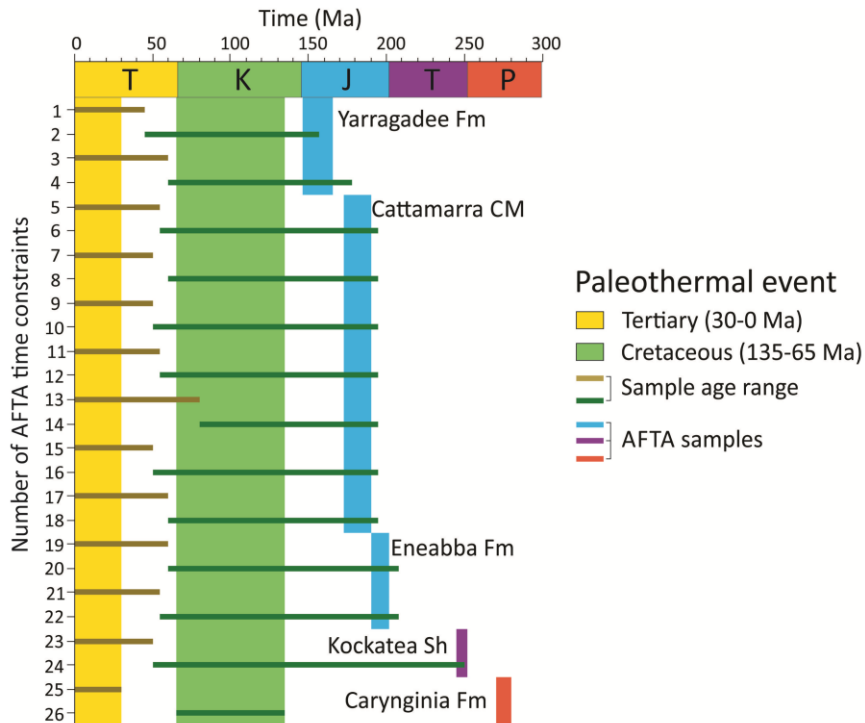


Presenter's notes: Perth Basin heat flow distribution on the left and subsurface temperatures distribution on the right. Heat flow values ranges from low value of about 46 to high value of about 114 milli-watts per square metre. The temperature distribution in centigrade to a depth of 5-kilometre range from a low temperature of about 110 degree centigrade in the south to high temperatures of about 250 degree centigrade in the north. These figures indicate that northern parts of the Perth Basin are comparatively more prospective for developing geothermal energy.



# Apatite Fission Track Analysis

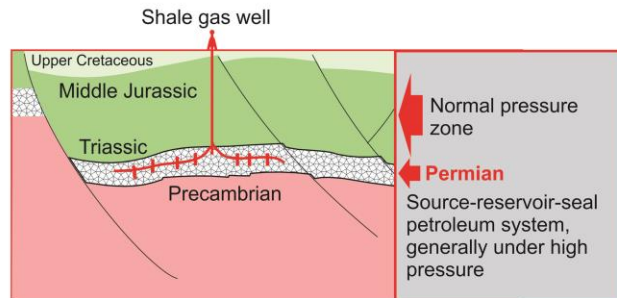
- Regional paleothermal event of the Perth Basin
- Identified from analysis of 15 samples representing 26 tracks of the Permian to Jurassic rocks from three wells:
  - Arranoo South 1
  - Cataby 1
  - West Erregulla 1



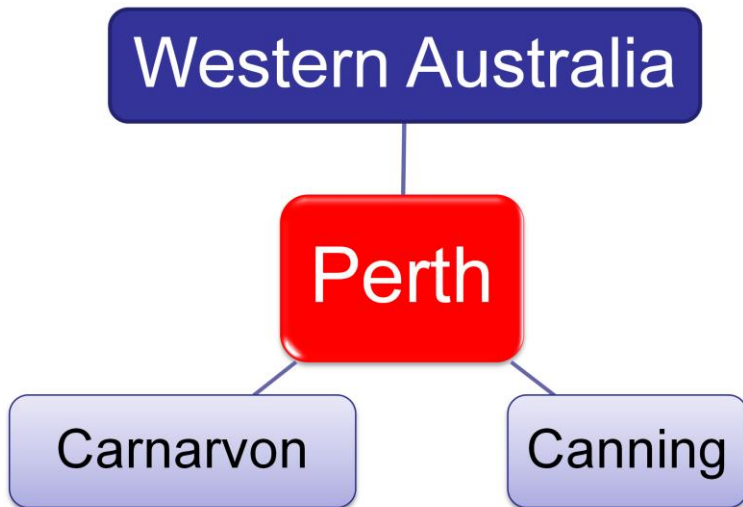
# Presentation Overview



- Perth Basin
- Tight-Reservoirs
- Shale-play modelling
- **Petroleum production**
- Conclusions

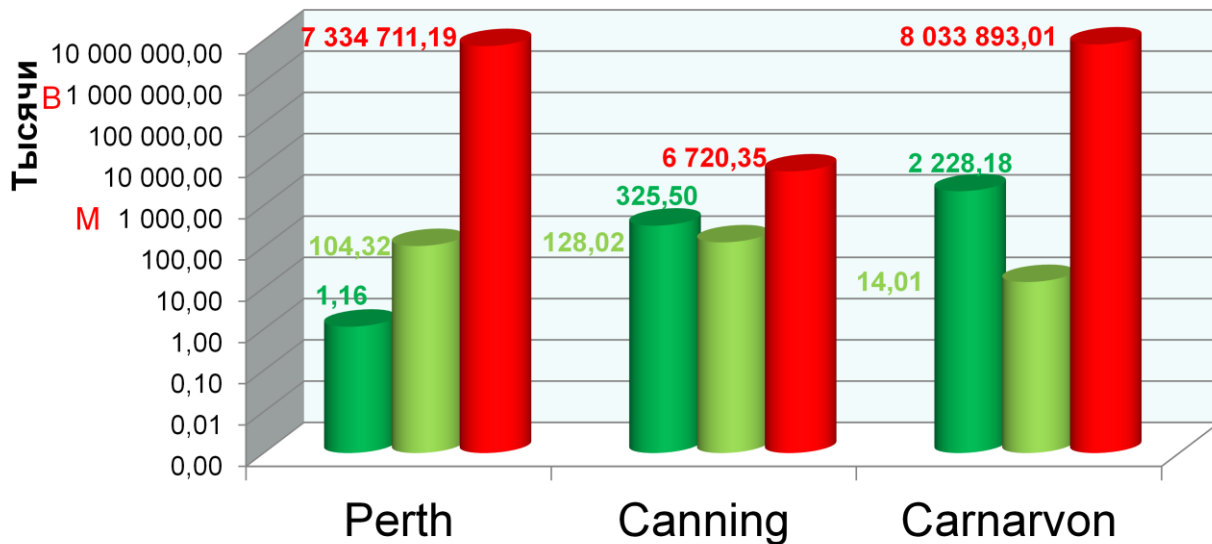


# Petroleum Production - 2014



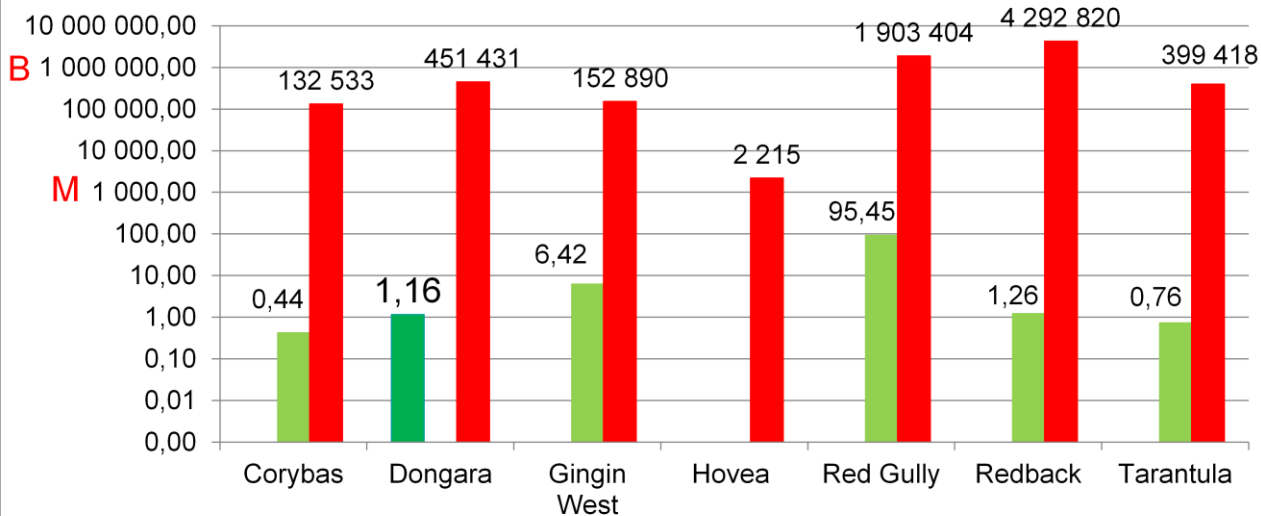
# Western Australia 2014

- Oil (bbl)
- Condensate (bbl)
- Gas (cubic feet)

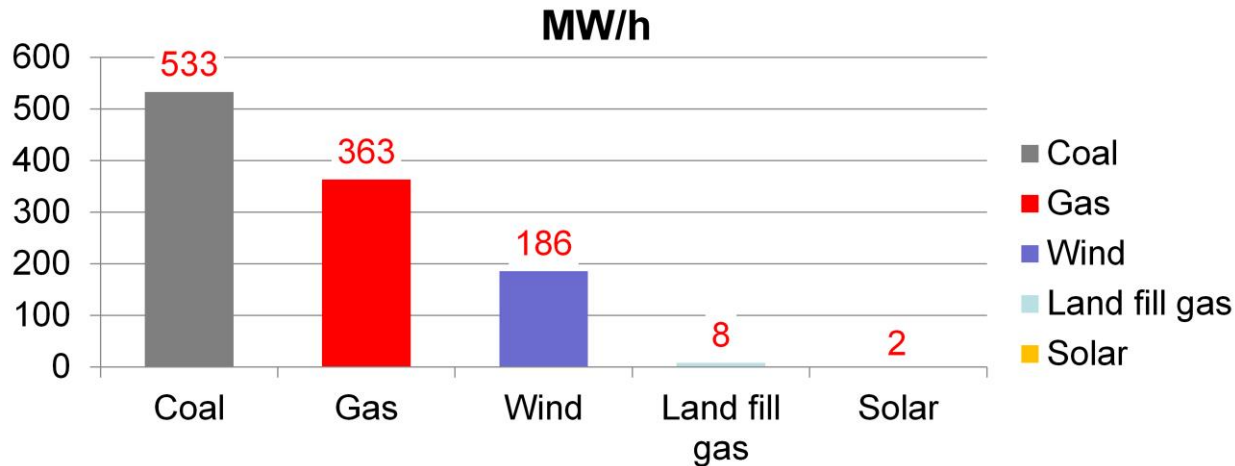


## Thousands

- Oil (bbl)
- Condensate (bbl)
- Gas (cubic feet)



# AEMO: Australian Energy Market Operators



AEMO - independent energy market operator and independent power system operator in Western Australia

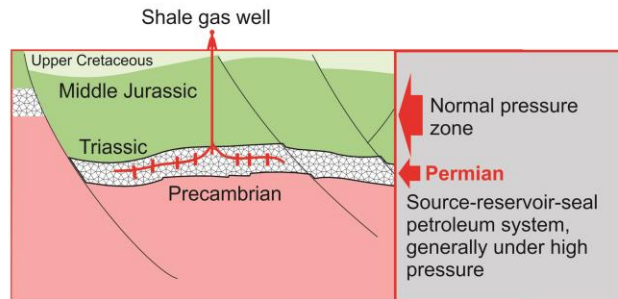
Government of Western Australia Department of Mines and Petroleum

Presenter's notes: Most Australian gas markets are based on bilateral arrangements between producers, major users and retailers linked together through pipeline hubs connecting gas fields to gas consumers.

# Presentation Overview



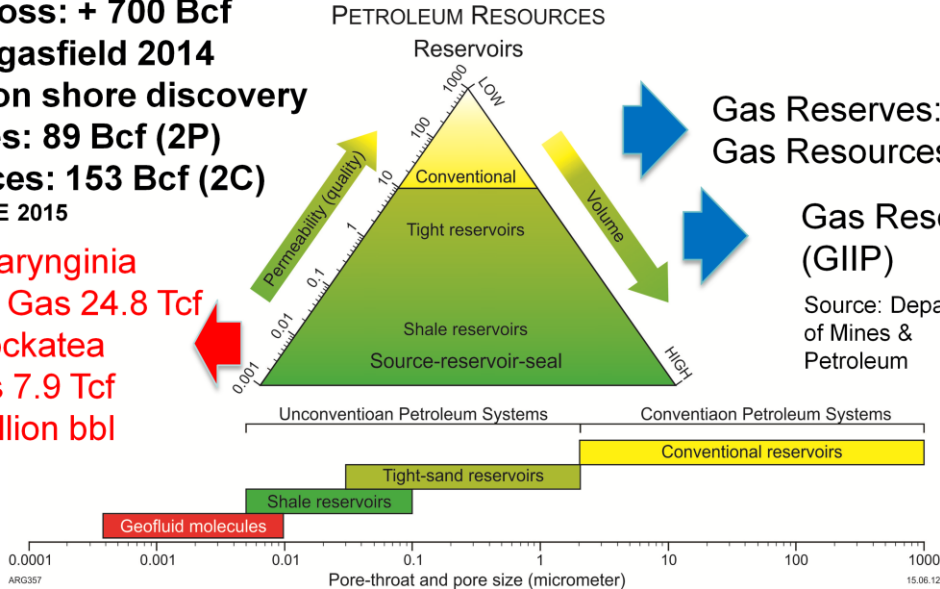
- Perth Basin
- Tight-Reservoirs
- Shale-play modelling
- Petroleum production
- Conclusions



**Total Gross: + 700 Bcf**  
**Waitsia gasfield 2014**  
**largest on shore discovery**  
**Reserves: 89 Bcf (2P)**  
**Resources: 153 Bcf (2C)**  
 Source: AWE 2015

**Permian Carynginia**  
**Formation: Gas 24.8 Tcf**  
**Triassic Kockatea**  
**Shale: Gas 7.9 Tcf**  
**Oil: 0.54 billion bbl**

Source: EIA/ARI  
 2013



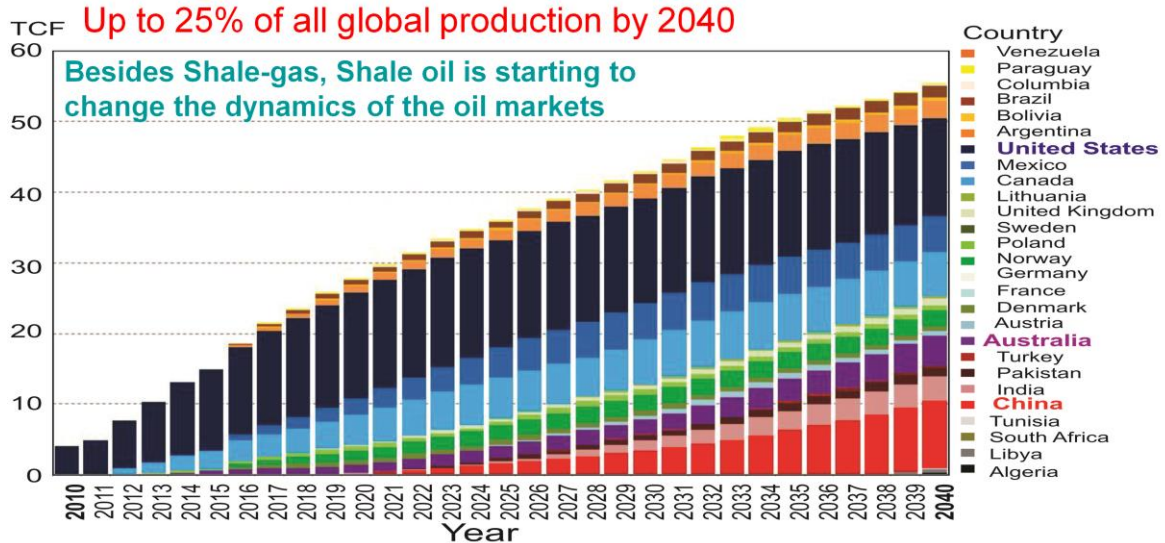
**Gas Reserves: 0.05 Tcf (2P)**  
**Gas Resources: 0.33 Tcf (2C)**

**Gas Reserves: 12 Tcf (GIIP)**

Source: Department  
 of Mines &  
 Petroleum



# Shale Production Out Look



Source: Kenneth B Medlock III

Presenter's notes: Another outlook for shale-gas for many countries including Australia. Up to 25% will be contributed by shale gas by 2040, hopefully correct.

# Thanks



# Questions