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GCAGS Explore & Discover Article #00230*
Posted October 30, 2017.

*Article based on an extended abstract published in the GCAGS Transactions (see footnote reference below), which is available as part of the entire 2017 GCAGS Transactions volume via the GCAGS Bookstore at the Bureau of Economic Geology (www.beg.utexas.edu) or as an individual document via AAPG Datapages, Inc. (www.datapages.com), and delivered as an oral presentation at the 67th Annual GCAGS Convention and 64th Annual GCSSEPM Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, November 1–3, 2017.

EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Wilcox Group, Gulf of Mexico

The upper Paleocene–lower Eocene Wilcox Group of the Gulf Coast represents a complete non-marine to deep marine series of systems tracts ranging from coaly delta plain environments onshore Gulf Coast to a time-equivalent bathyal condensed section on the floor of the Gulf of Mexico. Source potential is present in each environment: terrigenous organic matter (OM) in paralic coals has waxy oil and gas expulsion potential; marine shelf and slope mudstones are dominated by marine OM with varying but generally minor contribution of terrigenous OM; the abyssal condensed section has totally marine OM. OM in these marine-dominated environments was subjected to varying degrees of oxidation and is variably oil and gas prone.

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