STRATIGRAPHY OF THE BARENTS-KARA SEA REGION

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The Mesozoic and Palaeozoic successions of the Barents Sea and Kara Sea region have great interest in relation to the tectonic history of the Western Arctic Basin and its hydrocarbon potential. Mesozoic succession of the Barents Sea and Kara Sea has been penetrated by more than 130 wells. In contrast to the overlying Mesozoic successions, Palaeozoic strata of the Barents Sea and Kara Sea region can be evaluated only based on investigation of the adjacent basins, where only parts of the Palaeozoic succession have been drilled or studied in local outcrops.

Correlation of the Palaeozoic-Mesozoic succession in the Russian part of the Barents Sea and Kara Sea shelf based on geological and geophysical data, have lead to more precise definition of stratigraphic columns in the Western Arctic. The Mesozoic and Palaeozoic sections in the Novaya Zemlya, Severnaya Zemlya, Taimyr and Yenisey-Khatanga areas have been correlated with similar aged strata in the Barents Sea based on well data and outcrops. Regional unconformities, stratigraphic sub-division in the Barents-Kara region have been outlined.