
Impact of Morphology and Slope Type along the “Golden Lane” to Produce Oil Reservoirs in Slope Facies of the Tamabra Trend

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ABSTRACT

The importance of the Tamabra Formation lies on the large number of oil fields in the onshore Tampico-Misantla Basin. PEMEX efforts to find similar facies offshore include stratigraphic and sedimentologic studies of the Tamabra under the Gulf of Mexico's continental shelf. El Abra and Tamabra formations, shelf and slope facies of the “Tuxpan Platform,” were deposited during the Albian-Cenomanian. The former formation comprises platform-margin reef facies that shed sediment towards the slope as debris flows and turbidites, which constitute the reservoir facies of the Tamabra Formation.

One of the great differences between the onshore and offshore sectors of the “Tuxpan Platform” is the morphology and type of slope and the nature of the basement under the “Tamabra Trend.” To date, all producing fields in the Tamabra Formation are located onshore. Only two wells with this objective have been drilled offshore. It is clear that the Tamabra Formation is distributed throughout all the periphery of the “Tuxpan Platform,” but the scarcity of reefs along the eastern margin could have limited the amount of sediment shed to the basin, producing thinner and poorer quality slope facies than in the western side. So it is necessary to reconstruct the Jurassic-Cretaceous geologic evolution of the platform margin and consider all the geologic conditions that influenced its development.