

Upper Oligocene to Lower Miocene radiolarian biostratigraphy in the Northwest Pacific

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Ocean Drilling Program Leg 145 Hole 884B core provides the most continuous Neogene sequence of pelagic sediments in the northwest Pacific. We examined radiolarians from the Upper Miocene to Lower Miocene sediment of the core to establish subdivided radiolarian biozones.

The Upper Oligocene sequence can be divided into three zones, *Actinomma* sp. A, *Hexacantium* sp. B and *Cyrtolagena laguncula* Zones, in ascending order. The Lower Miocene sequence can be divided into four zones, *Botryopyle* sp. B, *Pentactinosphaera hokurikuensis*, *Stichocorys subligata* and *Dendrospyrus sakaii* Zones, in ascending order. Each of *Botryopyle* sp. B Zone and *P. hokurikuensis* Zone has been subdivided into subzones a, b and c.

Some episodes of significant faunal changes of radiolarians are identified within the studied interval. They seem not to reflect global cooling events but to reflect some regional events.

Keywords: Radiolaria, biozone, Site 884, North Pacific