K/T boundary sequence in the Cacarajicara Formation, Western Cuba: An impact-related, high-energy, gravity-flow deposit

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The Cacarajicara Formation in the Rosario belt of Western Cuba is a calcareous clastic sequence, more than 700 m thick, which contains shocked quartz throughout, and smectite and goethite spherules in its lower part. This formation is characterized by well-sorted, homogeneous, calcareous sedimentary rocks that contain fragments of shallow-water and deep-water carbonates.

We propose that a gigantic flow deposit was induced by earthquake-generated collapse of the Yucatán platform margin owing to ballistic flow from the Chicxulub impact.