

Methane hydrates at Kumano Basin revealed by IODP 314/315 Expeditions

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Methane hydrates were discovered in the ocean floor sediments at southern Kumano Basin, off Kii Peninsula, by IODP Expeditions 314/315. The drilling site was at 1970 m water depth. Several Logging-While-Drilling (LWD) data and core observation revealed that the hydrate interval was 220~400 m below sea floor. The LWD data strongly responded to the hydrates include resistivity, caliper and sonic. The core description showed temperature decrease corresponding to the hydrates.