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Gas hydrate reservoirs and gas migration mechanisms in the Terrebonne Basin, Gulf of Mexico

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

- 1 Title: Gas hydrate reservoirs and gas migration mechanisms in the Terrebonne Basin, Gulf of
- 2 Mexico
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- 12 Abstract
- 13 The interactions of microbial methane generation in fine-grained clay-rich sediments,
- methane migration, and gas hydrate accumulation in coarse-grained, sand-rich sediments are
- not yet fully understood. The Terrebonne Basin in the northern Gulf of Mexico provides an
- ideal setting to investigate the migration of methane resulting in the formation of hydrate in
- 17 thin sand units interbedded with fractured muds.
- 18 Using 3D seismic and well log data, we have identified several previously unidentified hydrate
- 19 bearing units in the Terrebonne Basin. Two units are >100 m- thick fine-grained clay-rich
- 20 units where gas hydrate occurs in near-vertical fractures. In some locations, these fine-
- 21 grained units lack fracture features, and they contain 1-4-m thick hydrate bearing-sands. In

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