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Sources and cycling of mercury in the paleo Arctic Ocean from Hg stable isotope variations in Eocene and Quaternary sediments

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

1 Sources and cycling of mercury in the paleo Arctic Ocean from Hg stable isotope variations 2 in Eocene and Quaternary sediments 3 JD Gleason<sup>1</sup>, JD Blum<sup>1</sup>, TC Moore<sup>1</sup>, L Polyak<sup>2</sup>, M Jakobsson<sup>3</sup>, PA Meyers<sup>1</sup>, A Biswas<sup>4</sup> 4 5 6 7 <sup>1</sup> Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA <sup>2</sup> Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA 8 <sup>3</sup> Department of Geological Sciences, University of Stockholm, Sweden 9 <sup>4</sup> Faculty of Earth Science, Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington, USA 10 11 Corresponding Author: J.D. Gleason, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Michigan, 12 Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA (e-mail: jdgleaso@umich.edu; phone: 734-764-9523; fax: 734-763-4690) 13 14 Keywords: Mercury isotopes; Marine sediments; Central Arctic Ocean; Cenozoic; PETM 15 16 Abstract 17 Mercury stable isotopic compositions were determined for marine sediments from eight locations in the Arctic Ocean Basin. Mass dependent fractionation (MDF) and mass independent 18 19 fractionation (MIF) of Hg stable isotopes were recorded across a variety of depositional environments, water depths, and stratigraphic ages.  $\delta^{202}$ Hg (MDF) ranges from -2.34% to -20 0.78%;  $\Delta^{199}$ Hg (MIF) from -0.18% to +0.12%; and  $\Delta^{201}$ Hg (MIF) from -0.29% to +0.05% for 21 the complete data set (n = 33). Holocene sediments from the Chukchi Sea and Morris Jesup Rise 22 record the most negative  $\Delta^{199}$ Hg values, while Pleistocene sediments from the Central Arctic 23 Ocean record the most positive  $\Delta^{199}$ Hg values. The most negative  $\delta^{202}$ Hg values are recorded in 24 25 Pleistocene sediments. Eocene sediments (Lomonosov Ridge) show some overlap in their Hg 26 isotopic compositions with Quaternary sediments, with a sample of the Arctic Ocean PETM (56 27 Ma) most closely matching the average Hg isotopic composition of Holocene Arctic marine 28 sediments. Collectively, these data support a terrestrially-dominated Hg source input for Arctic 29 Ocean sediment through time, although other sources, as well as influences of sea ice, 30 atmospheric mercury depletion events (AMDE), and anthropogenic Hg (in core top samples) on 31 Hg isotopic signatures must also be considered.

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