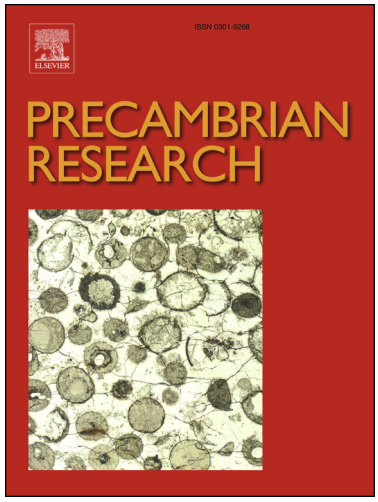

Evolution of primary producers and productivity across the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition

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PII: S0301-9268(18)30014-7
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.precamres.2018.05.023
Reference: PRECAM 5095

To appear in: *Precambrian Research*

Received Date: 4 January 2018
Revised Date: 12 May 2018
Accepted Date: 16 May 2018

Please cite this article as: L. Xiang, S.D. Schoepfer, H. Zhang, C-q. Cao, S-z. Shen, Evolution of primary producers and productivity across the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition, *Precambrian Research* (2018), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.precamres.2018.05.023

Evolution of primary producers and productivity across the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition

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Abstract: Nearly all extant animal phyla first appeared during the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition. A revolution in primary producer ecology and marine productivity has been proposed as a bottom-up ecological driver for this rapid diversification of metazoans. However, the control(s) driving the evolution of primary producers and primary productivity around the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition, and their potential relationship to the Cambrian Explosion, are not fully understood. In this study, we measured the nitrogen content and the nitrogen isotopic composition of