Description of NGHP Expedition 01 Sediment Core Supplemental Material:

NGHP Expedition 01 cored a total of 14 sites in the Indian Ocean, one site in the Arabian Sea, and one site in the Andaman Sea; from which a total of 20 Lithostratigraphic Column descriptions were generated (Figure SUP 1) as included in the supplemental data files.

In each of the NGHP Expedition 01 core holes, drilling depths were measured initially in terms of meters below rig floor (mbrf). From these values, depths in meters below sea floor (mbsf) are calculated by subtracting the water depth. NGHP Expedition 01 sites, holes, cores, and core sections are identified using IODP conventions (Figure SUP 1). An example identifier for a sample, NGHP-01-05C-2H-5, 80-85 cm, includes expedition (NGHP-01), site (05), hole (C), core number (2), core type (H), section number (5), and interval as measured from the top of the relevant section. Core type codes used include H (APC), X (XCB), Y (FPC), E (HRC) and P (PCS).

Cores acquired during NGHP Expedition 01 were generally handled according to ODP/IODP procedures. Inspection of the cored sediment began immediately upon recovery with infrared (IR) imaging of the core while still in the liner. These scans were used primarily to identify anomalously cool sections (dark colors on an IR scan) of liner that are indicative of recent or ongoing gas-hydrate dissociation within the enclosed sediments. IR core scans from 17 of the NGHP Expedition 01 core holes (Figure SUP 1) have been included in the supplemental data files.

After completing the IR scan, the core was then measured for sectioning and labeled with the core number, core type, and section number. After cutting the core into sections, the cores were then split, from bottom to top, creating separate archive and working halves. The archive half sections were scanned on the digital imaging system. Digital scans of core sections from 20 NGHP Expedition 01 core holes (Figure SUP 1) have been included in the supplemental data files.

During NGHP Expedition 01, lithostratigraphic descriptions were prepared from the archived core sections in 20 of the NGHP Expedition 01 core holes (Figure SUP 1), which have been included in the supplemental data files.

FIGURE CAPTION:

Figure SUP 1. Illustrated conventions for naming sites, holes, cores, and samples. Also listed are the lithostratigraphic column descriptions, infrared core scans, core section images, and core section

visual descriptions included in the supplemental data files. (CC, core catcher; mbsl, meters below sea level; mbsf, meters below seafloor)