

SCALE TYPES AND DISTRIBUTION OF COALBED METHANE DISTRICTS AND ZONES IN CHINA

YE Jianping; LIN Dayang. China National Administration of Coal Geology, Handan Hebei, China

Based upon the data of the coalbed methane resource (CBM) assessment from the twenty-six provinces or municipalities, the 30 CBM districts and 115 zones in China were respectively classified into nine types using two parameters, i.e., the evaluated area and average resource abundance. The amount of the CBM zones in China is predominant in small scale, relatively more in medium scale, and the CBM resources in China occur mostly in the 14 CBM-rich and –bearing zones with large- or medium-scale. In general, the CBM districts in China are complete in scale type, more in amount, not balanced in regional distribution, very various in area and medium in CBM abundance. The CBM-rich and –bearing zones with large- or medium-scale, which are potential in resource scale, occur centrally in the middle North China and western South China, and all the CBM-rich districts occur in the North China and South China. Therefore, the potential of the CBM resources in the North China might be best in China, that in the South China take second place, and that in the Northeast and Northwest China be relatively poor.