**5. CONGRESO DE MINERALOGIA Y METALOGENIA, OCTUBRE 2000**
**(Eds: I. Schalamuk, M. Brodtkorb y R. Etcheverry) INREMI, La Plata, Publicación 6, 252-259**

# LAS ROCAS DOLOMÍTICAS MESOZOICAS DEL ÁREA DE LOS MENUCOS Y SU APLICACIÓN EN HORMIGONES Y REVESTIMIENTOS.

**LÓPEZ, VANINA LUCRECIA***
* Cátedra de Geología Argentina, Departamento de Geología, Universidad Nacional del Sur. E-mail: vllopez@criba.edu.ar

## Abstract

The mesozoic dolomitic rocks at Los Menucos area where deposited in continental basins over paleoreliefs formed in the initial stadium of triassic vulcanism. These basins have scarce development and those deposits evolute from lacustrine environments to saline conditions, with an alternance of ash fall episodes. Sedimentary sequence is composed by dolomitic limestones, calcareous dolomites and pure dolomites, massives or laminated, stratified on banks up to 40cm. Their composition is chiefly dolomite, with calcite and illite-montmorillonite subordinated. The use of these rocks as coarse aggregates in concrete or paving tiles was analysed by petrographycal and_mineralogical studies and by chemical reactions with alkaline solutions.
Fine to very-fine grain dolomites, their high potential of reactivity face to NaOH alkaline solutions and their high contents in expansive clays as montmorillonite, make these rocks often non-apt to be used in concrete and paving tiles. There use in such cases is only possible when dolomite crystals are bigger than 30µ or when mixed with non-reactive aggregates.