Response to Reviewer Comments

First of all, thank you for taking the time to share such detailed and constructive feedback. I have carefully examined your comments and would like to respond to the following points:

Access to the revised manuscript: I will diligently implement all corrections and submit them to the editor. If there was a technical issue with access, I apologize; the updated file has been provided to you via the editors. I hope you can now evaluate it in its entirety.

Use of “Türkiye”: I understand and respect your opinion. I will follow the guidance of the editorial board and ensure consistent usage throughout.

In this part, I removed in manuscript. Natural gas discoveries and historical connection (Line 399):

I agree with you about you mentioned (Aydemir et al., 2001)

I do not intend to establish a direct causal link between Taşman’s legacy and recent discoveries. However, I wanted to emphasize that his contributions to early geology and infrastructure were part of a long-term energy pursuit. I revised the text to express this connection more clearly and in an interpretive manner.

In this part, I removed it from the manuscript. Statistical reference (Line 401): The “MAPEG data” added to the text, and the related claim strengthened.

Expression of geological constraints (Lines 402-403):

You are right; the current wording could create a misleading impression. I rephrased the text to clearly state that “Türkiye’s hydrocarbon potential is limited due to geological constraints, and technology or determination alone is not sufficient.”

To reiterate, your suggestions greatly contribute to the academic robustness and balanced narrative of the article. I will diligently implement all corrections and submit them to you and the editors.

Thank you once again for your attention and effort.

Sincerely,

Dr. Oğuz Mülayim