

Interactive comment on “Energy of plate tectonics calculation and projection” by N. H. Swedan

N. Swedan

nabilswedan@yahoo.com

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An amount of magma is produced following mantle decompression and it is admitted into a magma chamber. Equal amount of magma is consumed at midocean ridges. A large magma chamber having a large residence time acts as a bladder whose volume does not vary substantially with small variations of magma flow rate. As a result, the pressure in the magma system can be assumed to remain steady at any elevation. This provides steady and sustained pressure that drives the tectonic plates. Please see lines 15-25 of page 140 of the manuscript.

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., 5, 135, 2013.