In the current time scales (Cande and Kent, 95; Berggren et al, 95) the P-E Boundary is positioned at 55 Ma based primarily on the age of the -17 ash layer in Denmark. In the absence of a global stratigraphic section and point the boundary is an interval of 1 m.y. from 55.5 to 54.5 Ma that includes all of the different means of calibrating the boundary tie point, including the NP9/NP10 calcareous nannofossil zonal boundary, the planktonic foraminiferal P5/P6a zonal boundary, preliminary ages for the -17 and +19 ash layers (unpub.), the base of the London Clay Formation, and the $\delta^{13}$C spike.

Here we present new Ar-Ar ages for the -17 and +19 ash layers in Denmark and combine this study with a calibration of the Ar-Ar with the U-Pb method. As Ar-Ar ages are relative to the known age of a standard or monitor, U-Pb ages on zircons from the same rocks from the British Tertiary Igneous Province provide an absolute age calibration for all of our Ar-Ar ages (including the monitors). An additional complication arises because the time scale is currently being revised (J. Ogg, Pers. Comm.). In the new time scale the P-E boundary will stay at 55 Ma and the K-T boundary will move by 0.5 m.y. to 65.5 Ma. Our results have a direct impact on the positioning of the P-E Boundary relative to the K-T boundary as definitive K-T tektite is used as one of our Ar-Ar standards.

Ar-Ar ages and U-Pb ages for the same sample from the BTIP are indistinguishable
when the ages used for the Ar-Ar monitor minerals are those recommended in Renne et al (98). This means that the K-T tektite is \(65.78 \pm 0.03\) Ma, the -17 ash is \(54.52 \pm 0.05\) Ma, and the +19 ash is \(54.04 \pm 0.14\) Ma. If the P-E boundary is taken to be between the -17 and +19 ash layers, as in DSDP Hole 550 (the ashes bracket the planktonic foraminiferal P5/P6a zonal boundary) then the current position at 55 Ma is too old. We therefore suggest that if the K-T boundary moves to 65.5 Ma, then the P-E boundary should not stay at 55 Ma, but move to 54.5 Ma (extending the Palaeocene by 1 m.y.). If the K-T boundary does not move by 0.5 m.y. then the P-E boundary would still have to move from its current position at 55 Ma and the ages used for the argon monitor minerals revised.