Second Round Revisions: **Early westward flow across the Tasman Gateway** Willem Sijp, Anna von der Heydt and Peter Bijl

The editor's comments are in *italic*.

Following the recommendation of the second anonymous referee, I decide to accept your manuscript for publication subject to minor revisions. However, in the light of the report of the first anonymous referee, I propose to make the title of your manuscript even more specific, e.g.: "Model simulations of early westward flow across the Tasman Gateway during the early Eocene". Furthermore, I also you urge you to acknowledge the weaknesses of the UVic model in the "Model and Experimental Design" section, as brought up by the first anonymous referee. In this respect, please comment on whether it would be helpful to employ the geostrophic wind-feedback parameterization offered by the UVic model, given a suitable atmospheric base state (possibly by Goldner et al., 2014). Otherwise, please follow carefully the suggestions by the second anonymous referee.

Thank you for handling our manuscript. We have changed the title accordingly and also enquired with the journal how we might change the title within their systems also.

We now acknowledge the UVic model weaknesses in the Model Description and indicate that it could be helpful to conduct simulations with a wind-feedback parameterization.

We have carefully followed and implemented the suggestions by reviewer 2.