

For Public Notice via Internet

REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER *ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS ACT 1978*

Title of Proposal: Oaklands Hill Wind Farm

Proponent: Investec Bank Australia Ltd and Windlab Systems Pty Ltd (Joint Venture)

Description of Project:

A wind energy facility of 70-80 MW, containing up to 45 turbines with a 80m hub height and 90-100m blade. Buildings and works required for the facility include access tracks, underground cabling, a substation and control building. A 15-30 km power line connection to the grid is needed.

The 2259 ha project site is located approximately 3 km south of the township of Glenthompson, 130 km west of Ballarat and 50 km east of Hamilton. It comprises predominantly cleared agricultural land, used mostly for sheep grazing and cropping, with some remnant vegetation. The terrain is characterised by low ridgelines overlooking creeks and drainage lines.

Decision:

The Minister for Planning has decided that an environment effects statement is not required for the proposed Oaklands Hill Wind Farm.

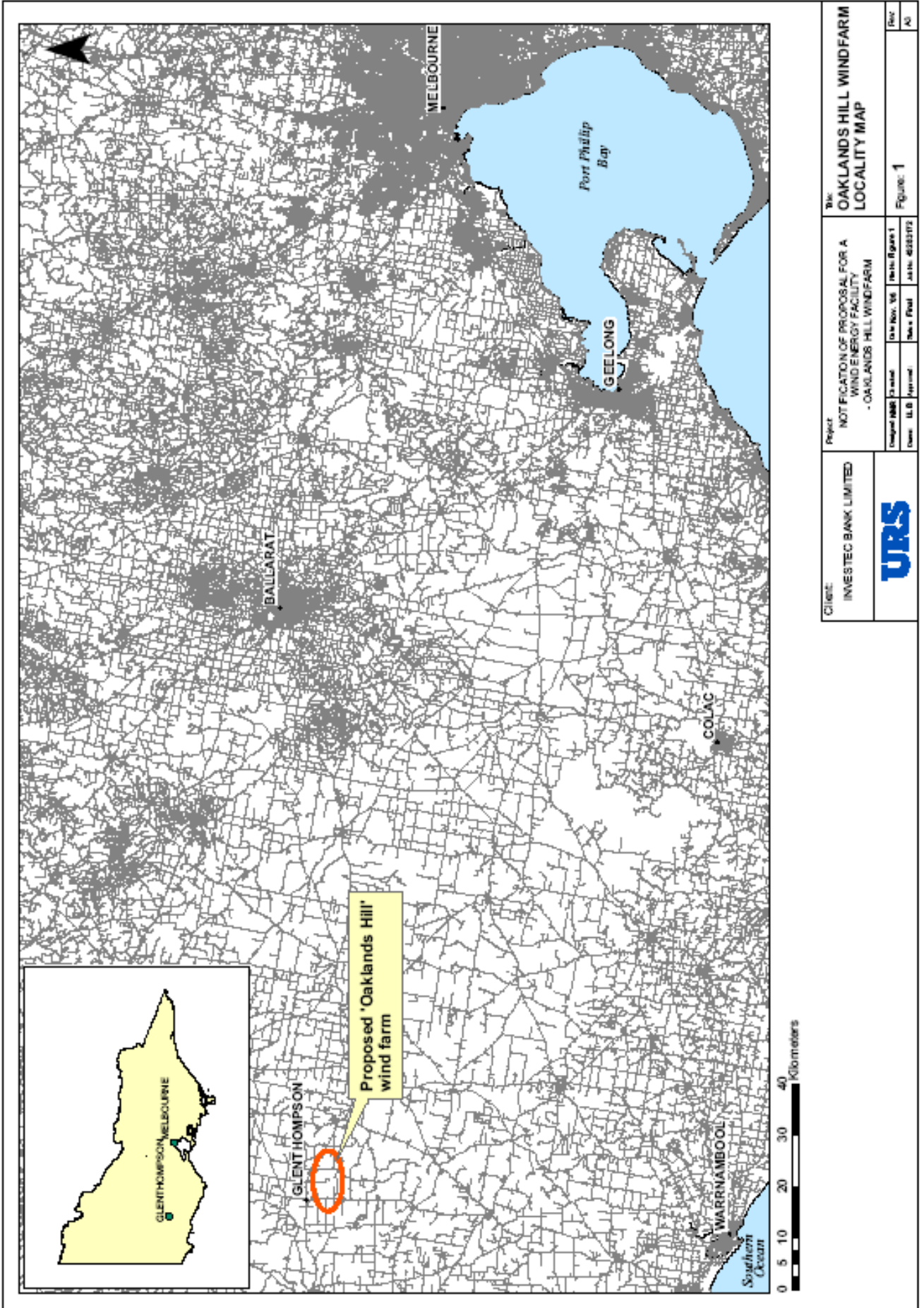
This decision is subject to the following condition:

- Prior to the commencement of any works associated with the wind energy facility, an assessment of risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage is to be provided to the satisfaction of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. This documentation is to incorporate results of a program of field surveys together with a cultural heritage management plan, prepared in consultation with relevant Aboriginal groups.

Reasons for Decision:

- The project site mostly consists of cleared agricultural land, with considerable scope to adjust the siting of turbines and associated infrastructure for this wind energy facility to avoid significant adverse effects on both indigenous flora and fauna and Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- The project is unlikely to give rise to environmental effects of regional or state significance.
- Potential effects on landscape values and residential amenity are likely to be of local significance only, with some potential for mitigation.
- The conditions attached to this decision, in combination with the documentation required to support a planning permit application(s) for the wind energy facility and related works, will provide a sufficient basis for considering the issues related to the proposed works.

Date of Decision: 9 January 2007




CLIENT: INVESTEC BANK LIMITED 	Project: NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL FOR A WIND ENERGY FACILITY - OAKLANDS HILL WINDFARM (Original NAB 12/10/10)	THE: OAKLANDS HILL WINDFARM LOCALITY MAP	
		Date Issued: 06/11/10 Date of Issue: 06/11/10 Issue No: 06/11/10	Figure: 1 Rev: A0



Legend:

-  Watercourse
-  Communications tower
-  Wind monitoring tower
-  Dwellings and outbuildings
-  Site boundary
-  Additional Site Area
-  Municipal Boundary



Client: INVESTEC BANK LIMITED		Project: NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL FOR A WIND ENERGY FACILITY - OAKLANDS HILL WINDFARM		Title: EXISTING CONDITIONS	
		Designed: NMR	Checked:	Date: Nov/16	File No: Figure 2
		Drawn: LLS	Approved:	Status: Final	Job No: 4326172
Figure 2					Rev: A3