

M/S 852,
401 Preston Boundary Rd.,
Toowoomba 4352 QLD.
27.03.2003

Mr. Sebastian Roberts,
General Manager Regulatory Officer,
ACCC,
GPO Box 520J,
Melbourne Vic 3001.

FILE No: M2002/468-06
DOC: D03/12864
MARS/PRISM

Dear Sir,

Re application by Murraylink for regulatory status.

This submission is made in favour of Murraylink Transmission Companies to the ACCC for conversion to a prescribed service and maximum allowable revenue for 2003/2013.

I own a property that to date has a dormant easement, in existence for approximately 22 years. My property along with two adjoining properties has an area of extreme ecological significance and is considered an endangered regional ecosystem yet Powerlink, the company proposing to erect 330kv overhead transmission lines through from Millmerran to Middleridge Toowoomba, is totally ignoring public outcry over many genuine concerns and claim that they are acting within the ACCC guidelines, as stated by their CEO Gordon Jardine at a public meeting 18/3/2003.

Please find herewith a press release from Power Down Under, a very large group of concerned residents/landholders between Middleridge and Millmerran, dated 20/3/2003 and the public response from Mr. Gordon Jardine dated 26/3/2003 both being printed in the local Toowoomba newspaper "The Chronicle".

It became very obvious to all those who attended the meeting on 18/3/2003 that Mr. Jardine believes that the objective of the ACCC guidelines are to provide power to the most people for the least monetary cost and that any human, health, economic, environmental or other costs are absolutely of no concern and Powerlink by adopting this interpretation of the guidelines are unaccountable. For the whole of the meeting Mr. Jardine repeatedly quoted that the ACCC required the least cost power and gave the public and Power Down Under committee no recognition for all the very genuine concerns put to him claiming that Powerlink is obeying the law.

I believe that there are rules applied by the ACCC, one being minimisation of ALL costs test, which would mean "not necessarily the cheapest option" and another maximisation of benefit which would surely mean, having weighed up ALL issues, a sensible solution with least impact be adopted. The National Electricity Code and Regulatory Code I understand requires a full cost benefit analysis which would surely factor in the human, environment, economic, health, tourism, safety and social costs. In Powerlink's case this is not happening.

I wish to quote, in part, from the E.I.A.'s final terms of reference:
"SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE E.I.A. FOR THE PROPOSED MIDDLELIDGE PROJECT".
PART A: Project Objectives.

1(b) Consideration of alternatives, having regard to the objectives of the proposal, the lay physical and engineering constraints, pertinent environmental and economic factors and community concerns.

Consider alternatives including different transmission capacity, alternative technologies such as underground and direct current systems, alternative instillations, methodologies, alternative starting and ending points, corridors and routed and the "do nothing option". Discussion of reasons for rejecting the alternatives and a summary of the environmental trade-offs of each option should be presented.

© Route selection process- outlines the processes undertaken to arrive at the recommended route for the transmission line including the selection of corridor options.

Our present dealings with Powerlink do not indicate that the above requirements will be adhered to.

The area in which my family and I live is most delightful and given now to tourism and a major winery "Preston Peak" has been established, one block away, over the past few years. International bird watchers are keen to explore the sensitive environment and the visual and scenic appeal cannot be surpassed.

Construction of such a large, highly visible and intrusive transmission line across the

Darling Downs will have far greater impact than if erected in almost any other part of the country. The cost factor must include all relevant issues not just monetary. I alone stand to lose 17 acres out of a 40-acre block due to the elongated shape of the land and I believe that is too great a sacrifice to be expected to make. This is my superannuation investment just gone because of Powerlink's interpretation of the ACCC guidelines. I am 83 years young and ask for justice for myself and fellow objectors between here and Millmerran.

I enclose several photos and a map of the area. The aerial photo is about 7 yrs.old so does not show the winery and other housing now in this popular area. Because of a public holiday here for the Toowoomba Royal Show (27th) I am unable to mail my submission in time so will fax through and priority post the original copy to arrive 31/3/2003.

Yours sincerely,

F. V. Rattray

Mrs. Faith Rattray.

per F. V. Rattray

Reg P.O.A. for

F. V. RATTRAY as requested today.

Govt corporations a law unto themselves: PDU

Power Down Under (PDU) claims it must change the political landscape if it is to change the approach taken by Powerlink towards the proposed Millmerran-Middle Ridge powerline.

A public meeting on Tuesday night heard the direction taken by Powerlink was based in legislation and opponents would be successful only if they changed the political process.

PDU spokesman Dr Jock Lambie said he believed people were told to "like it or lump it".

"Some of these government-owned corporations think they're a law unto themselves," Dr Lambie said.

"We're not going to let up, because what we do here could help people in our position down the track."

PDU will make submissions to an Australian Competition and Consumer Commission inquiry into the

future direction of financing and tendering processes for the construction of transmission lines.

Powerlink chief executive Mr Gordon Jardine was peppered with questions from the 130-strong audience at the meeting at Greenmount.

"While we understand that people may not want a powerline in their area, the underlying imperatives for this project remain unchanged," he said yesterday. "There is a need to maintain reliable supply to Middle Ridge which serves the entire Darling Downs region."

Mr Jardine said the proposed route was part of the solution that delivered the lowest cost to electricity consumers.

A draft environmental impact assessment will be issued for public comment in the next few months.

THE CHRONICLE

20/3/3

□ Rules govern Powerlink

The remark from Power Down Under spokesman Jock Lambie (TC 20/3) about some government-owned corporations being "a law unto themselves" is incongruous

with The Chronicle's (accurate) report that the "public meeting on Tuesday night heard that the direction taken by Powerlink was based in legislation".

At that meeting, I shared with the community that Powerlink's actions were bound by both legislation and by regulation in the national electricity market.

I read from, and tabled, a letter from the ACCC confirming the regulatory criteria which apply to Powerlink in relation to having to select the lowest-cost solution for the proposed Millmerran-Middle Ridge powerline.

The consistent thrust of my contributions at the meeting was that Powerlink's decisions were heavily constrained by regulation and legislation — this is the opposite end of the spectrum from being a law unto oneself. — GORDON JARDINE, chief executive, Powerlink Queensland.

THE CHRONICLE
26/3/03

On Our Selection News

DISTRIBUTED FREE IN THE CAMBOOYA SHIRE
"DAD AND DAVE COUNTRY"

Printed by the Clifton Courier, 52 Clark Street, Clifton Fax 4697 3339

Vol. 6 No. 22

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2003

Phone 4697 3603

Powerlink meets with Community at meeting

Powerlink representatives met with community members last Tuesday at a public meeting in the Greenmount Hall to discuss the Millmerran to Middle Ridge powerline proposal.

"We have already provided as much information as possible to the community," Mr Jardine said.

"While we understand that people may not want a powerline in their area, the underlying imperatives for this project remain unchanged.

"There is a need to maintain a reliable supply to Middle Ridge which serves the entire Darling Downs region, by late 2004.

"There is also a need to reinforce the growing Logan Region by 2009.

"Powerlink is obliged to plan its network to meet both these needs in an integrated manner. Under

the rules of the National Electricity Market, Powerlink is also required to select the solution which delivers the lowest cost to electricity consumers at large.

"The proposed Millmerran to Middle Ridge powerline is part of the solution which meets the above criteria," he said.

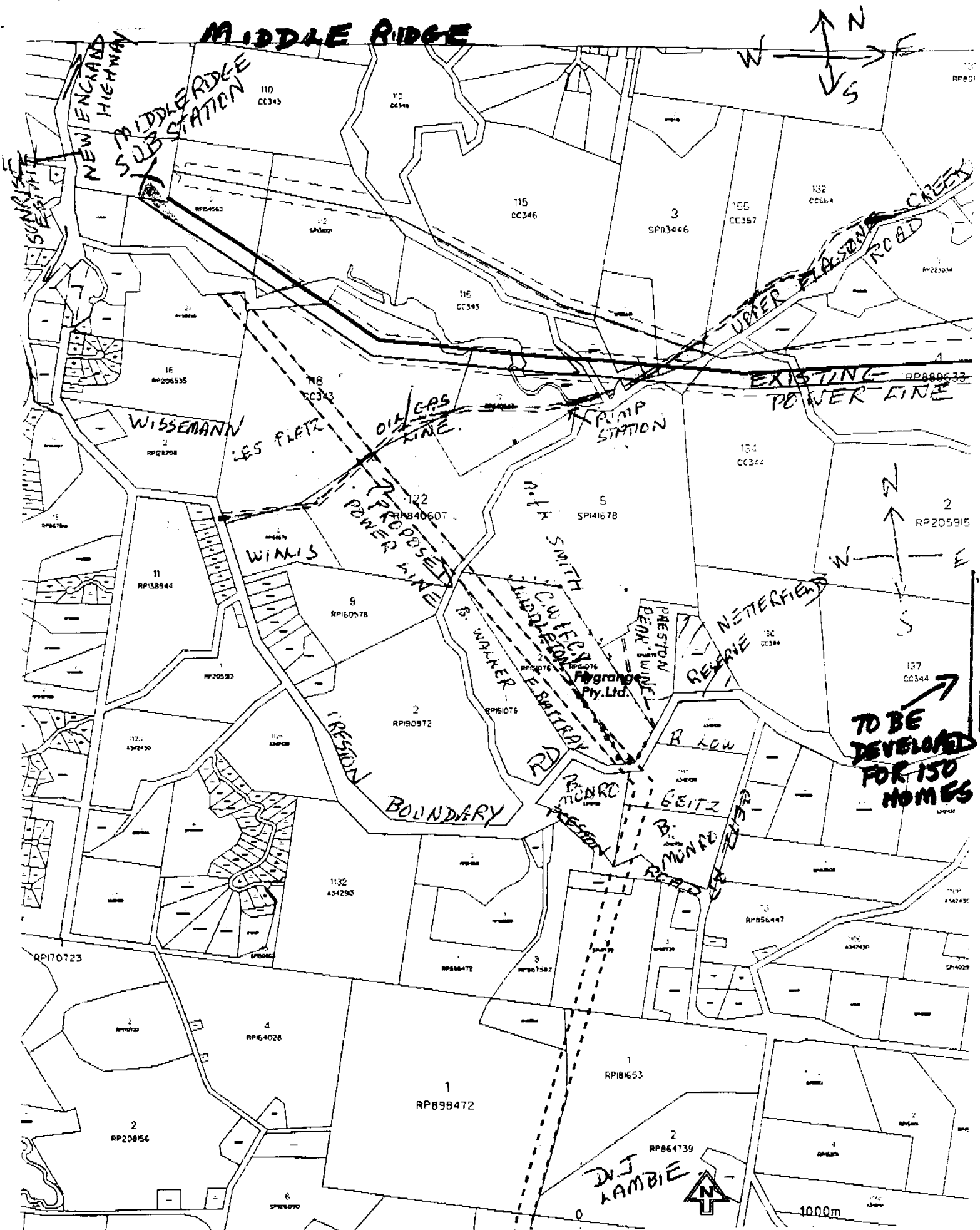
In relation to alternatives, Mr Jardine said Powerlink had already provided the community with information that demonstrates that the proposed Millmerran to Middle Ridge powerline is part of the solution which delivers the lowest cost to electricity consumers at large.

He said Powerlink will continue to work constructively with affected property owners and others in the affected community to meet its obligations.

He said the next step in the process, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), has already commenced.

The EIA process produces a formal report that looks at the potential impacts of a proposed transmission line development. It will assess the natural environment as well as social, cultural and economic considerations, and identifies how any impacts can be mitigated or managed.

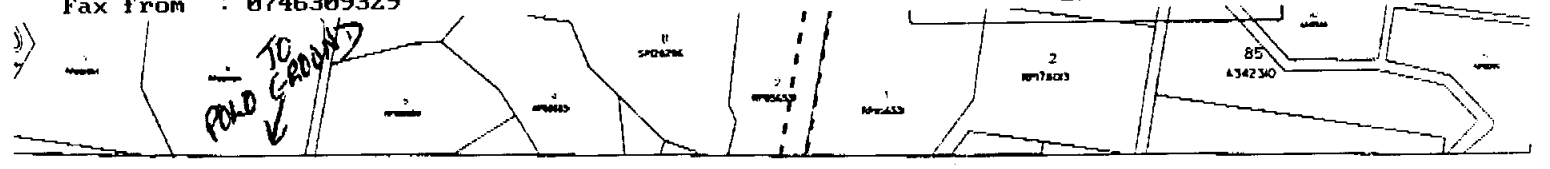
A draft EIA report will be prepared and issued for public comment in the next few months.



TO BE DEVELOPED FOR 150 HOMES



1000m



EAGLES REST B&B BREAKFAST

THE CHRONICLE 27/3/03

POWERKINK WILL DESTROY LOCAL RESIDENTS SOUTH OF TROUWBOOMBA TO DO LIKEWISE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

B&B a tranquil retreat

stove for cosy winter evenings and the cabin is also equipped with a television and DVD player.

A continental breakfast of fresh seasonal fruits, yoghurt, cereals and fresh bread is served to the *Serenity* sunroom and *Cosmorina* deck each morning.

ties are provided. Just metres away, but even more private and ideal for longer stays, *Cosmorina* is fully self contained with a kitchen (cooktop and microwave), laundry, queen-sized bed, double spa and private deck.

It is air-conditioned, with a pot-bellied

SOME places are special — their beauty just begs to be shared. Eagle's Rest Bed and Breakfast is built in one of those places, two hectares of land high in the hills near Cabarlah. (NORTH OF 770 JIMBA)

"We have been blessed with a piece of paradise," host Mrs Rosemary Mibus said.

"It's just too nice not to share with others," she said.

Mrs Mibus and her husband bought the property four years ago, taking time to plant trees before planning and building the main house where they have lived for the past year.

"I've always wanted to build a home large enough for family and others," Mrs Mibus said.

"We designed it to create a restful atmosphere, to match the landscape with the blue colour and curves of the hills.

"Already it has been a wonderful healing place," she said.

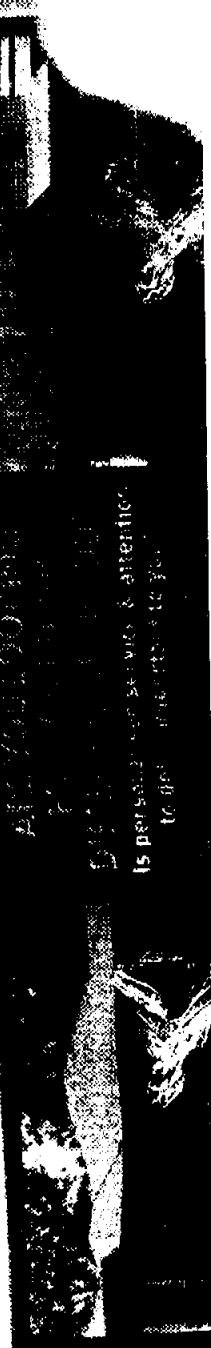
A maximum of four guests (two couples) can stay at Eagle's Rest at one time, choosing either the *Serenity* unit within the main house, or the fully private, self-contained *Cosmorina* cabin.

Serenity has its own private entrance from the garden, a sunroom, queen-sized bed and ensuite.

A refrigerator and tea-making facilities



G. James Glass & Aluminium
 Proud suppliers of Aluminium & Glass products to...
Eagles Rest Bed & Breakfast
 Builder - Mark Sorensen
 Ph 4690 2111
 319 Taylor St, Troowoombe



is person... & attention... to the... to you...

EAGLES REST BED & BREAKFAST

As high as an eagle, as graceful as a bird

HIGH on the escarpment, Eagle's Rest Bed and Breakfast is a place to take some precious time out from everyday distractions.

The property is a part of the Quiet Garden Trust, a worldwide Christian organisation that promotes the opening of private gardens for prayer, meditation, reflection and rejuvenation.

"Guests can come to spend time alone with God and be restored, emotionally or physically," host Mrs Rosemary Mibus said.

About half of the two hectare site has been partially cleared, providing room for guests to explore and enjoy the sight of native birds or wallabies who call it home.

They can wander to Grevillea Hill, where different species have been planted for colour and food, or down to The Bell, where maidenhair ferns have been encouraged to colonise the shady places under the trees.

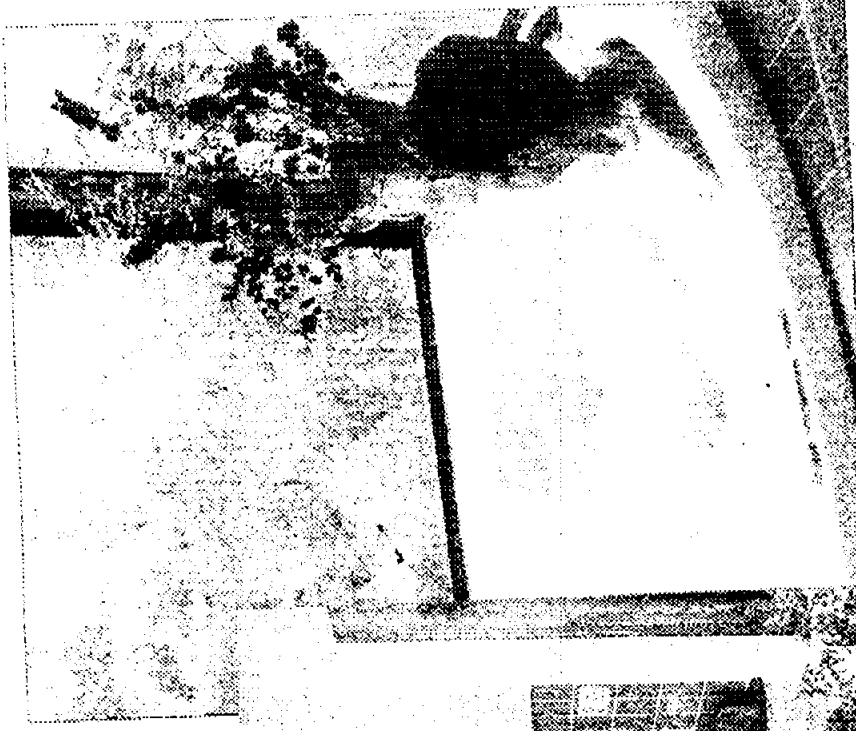
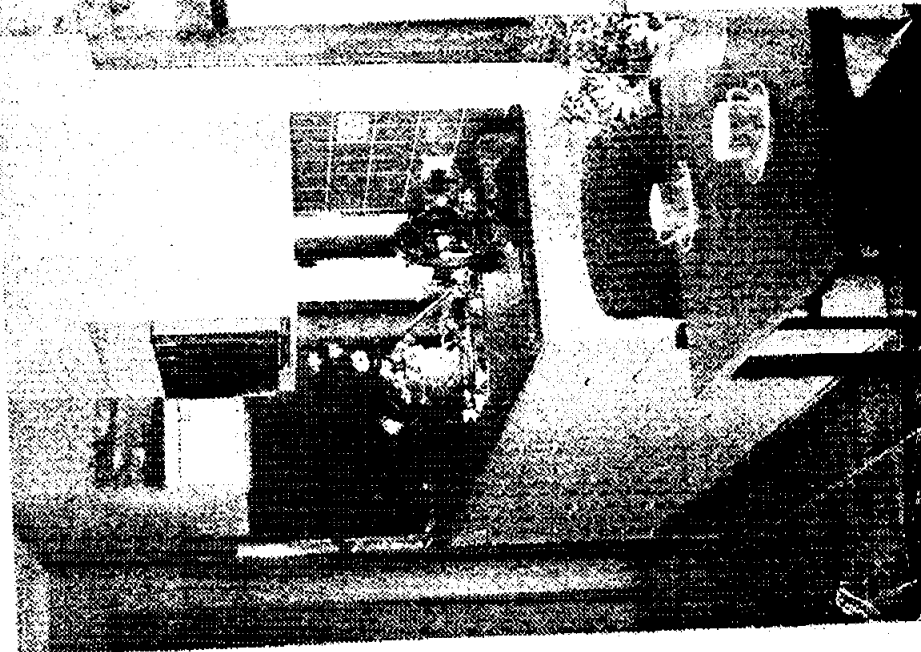
Eventually walking tracks will be developed through the uncleared gully.

"Guests are welcome here for half a day or a day, or to spend the night -- but bookings are essential to preserve the tranquil atmosphere," Mrs Mibus said.

Day entry to the garden is by donation to the Quiet Garden Trust.

Other Quiet Garden Trust properties are situated at Corowa, Hinchfields, Pittsworth

The BBQ was designed to create a restful atmosphere to match the landscape



Reflect, retreat... relax

Perched on the hills amongst sweeping grassy slopes and with spectacular views. Choose from our

winning

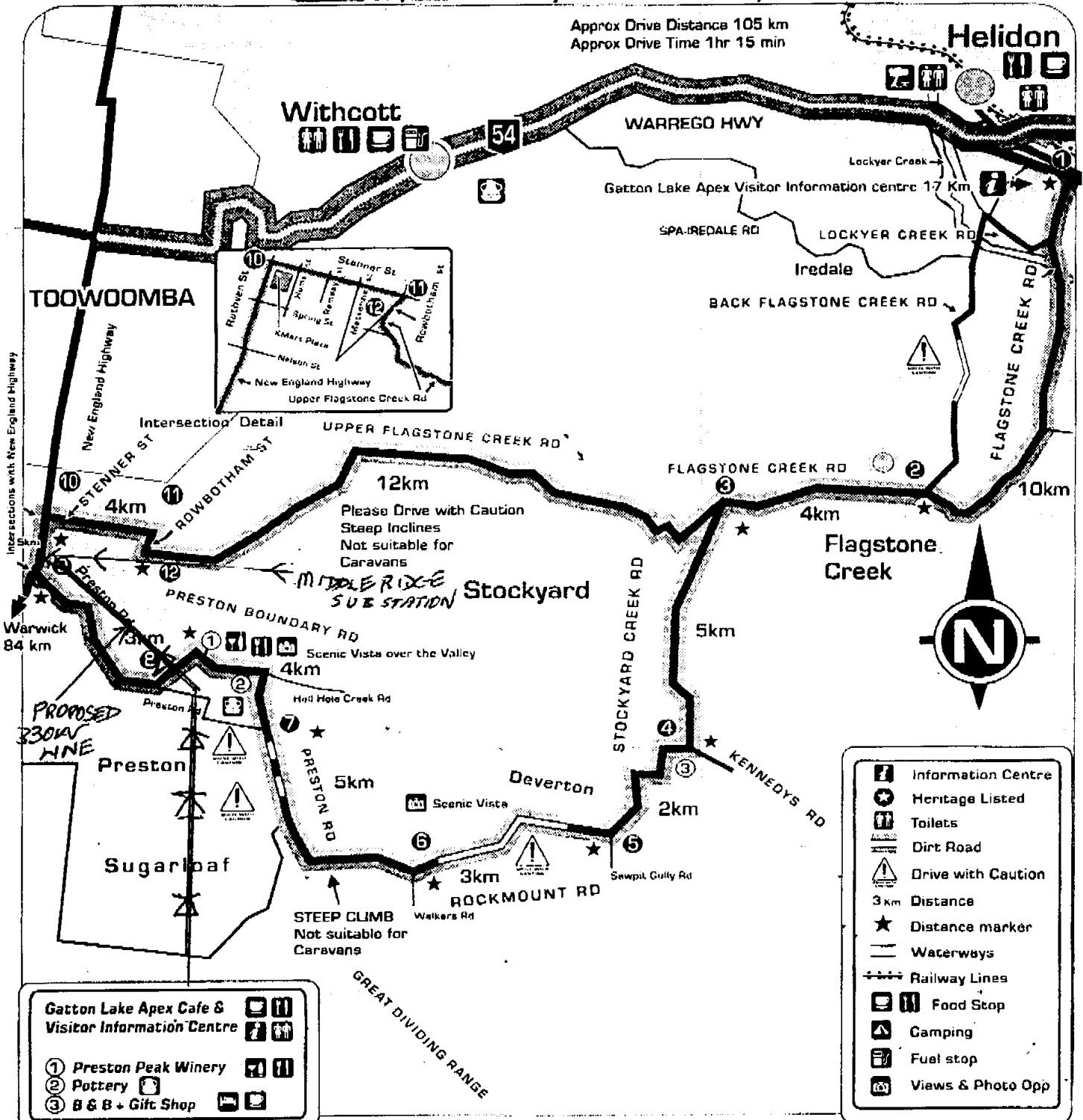
Lockyer Valley TOURIST DRIVES

Wine & Rock DRIVE

Visitor Information Centres
GATTON: 5462 3430
LOCKYER VALLEY: 5465 7642



- Spectacular Valley & Mountain Views • Natural Forest • Camping Areas • Dairy Country • Horticulture •
- Rock Escarpments • Winery • Nurseries • Antiques •



Drive Directions

- Starting at the Gatton Lake Apex Information Centre, head west 17km towards Toowoomba, on the Gatton Helidon Road. Then take the
- 1 left turn into Flagstone Creek Road
 - 2 Past Back Flagstone Creek Road intersection
 - 3 left into Stockyard Creek Road
 - 4 Past Kennedys Road intersection
 - 5 right into Rockmount Road
 - 6 right into Preston Road
 - 7 right into Preston Boundary Road
 - 8 right into Preston Road
 - 9 right onto New England Highway
 - 10 Right turn into Stenner Street for 3.5Km
 - 11 Right turn into Rowbotham Street
 - 12 Left turn into Upper Flagstone Creek Road
- Connecting with Flagstone Creek Road
 2 Past Back Flagstone Creek Road intersection
 1 Left turn into the Helidon Gatton Road, returning to Gatton via Grantham.

Alternate return option:
 Take the New England Highway passing through Toowoomba to right turn into Murphys Creek Road. Returning to Gatton via Spring Bluff & Murphys Creek Helidon & Grantham. See Drive Map SPRING BLUFF DRIVE

An Initiative of the Gatton Shire Council
 Disclaimer: Maps have been compiled as a general guide only and the Gatton Shire Council and S&J Group cannot take any responsibility for any errors or omissions. We cannot guarantee the quality or condition of facilities or services indicated. Users of business operation or access to premises. Up to date information may be available from visitor information centres or local authorities etc.
 Road conditions or route changes may occur from time to time and these should be checked by the visitor before embarking on any drive. ENJOY YOUR DRIVE.

