SCHEDULE 24 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO24

SITE OF SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

A number of sites of scientific significance have been identified. These include:

Sites of archaeological significance relating to the pre-European history of the Peninsula. These sites are of special value due to their Aboriginal cultural heritage significance, linked to their environmental context.

Sites of botanical significance. These sites are of special value due to the quality or rarity of the vegetation community, the condition and diversity of species and the extent of the area, affecting the ability of the community to regenerate.

Sites of geological significance. These sites are of special value due to the diversity of lithological, geomorphological or petrological features and the unique association or outstanding occurrence of geological forms or processes and their condition.

Sites of zoological significance. These sites are of special value due to the vulnerability, rarity and diversity of species, the extent of the population, which affects the ability of the community to regenerate, and the degree of habitat modification.

These sites are of cultural, scientific and educational value to current and future generations.


2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

- To ensure the conservation of specific areas of archaeological, botanical, geological or zoological value or significance.
- To maintain the environmental context of archaeological, botanical, geological and zoological sites.
- To avoid any modification to sites of scientific significance, including the modification by grazing or cropping, and to ensure that any development within the overlay area are necessary to maintain or enhance the archaeological, botanical, geological and zoological values of the site.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is not required for any works directed or authorised under the Archaeological and Aboriginal Preservation Act 1972, provided that the site is not of botanical, geological or zoological significance.

An application must include a report from a suitably qualified person or persons, demonstrating that the archaeological, botanical, geological and zoological values of the site have been addressed.

4.0 Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The environmental objectives of this schedule.
- The Aboriginal cultural resources management grid map and guidelines provided by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.
- The impact of any proposal on the site and the capacity of the area to withstand change without detriment to its scientific or educational value.
- Whether the proposed works are necessary for the maintenance or enhancement of archaeological, botanical, geological or zoological values.