

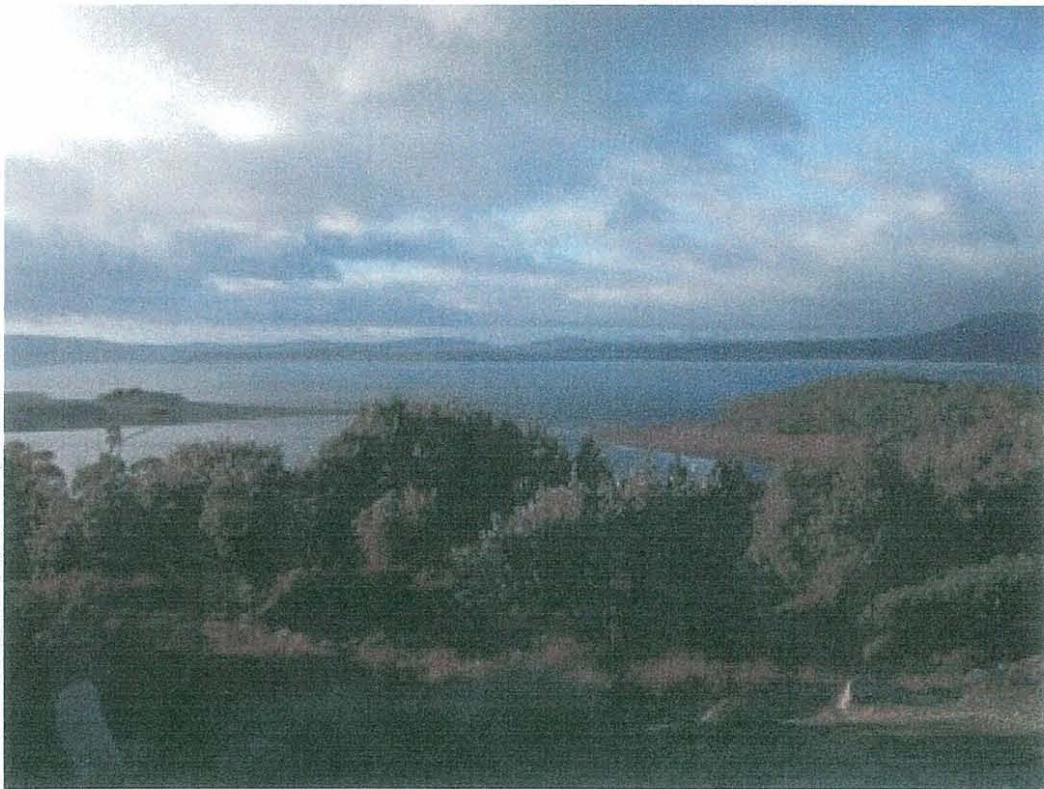
A Survey for Aboriginal Heritage

at

**Epping Forest, Bracknell,
Tunbridge & Great Lake**

for

Great South Land Minerals Limited



by

***Rocky Sainty,
Aboriginal Heritage Consultant***

**1 Hillcot Place,
Glenorchy 7010
Phone: 62 741834
Mobile: 0417 016 598**

3rd February 2007

Section 1 INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of a Survey for Aboriginal Heritage of four areas (referred to in this report as Epping Forest, Bracknell, Tunbridge & Great Lake) with regard to a proposed Exploration Drilling Program to be undertaken by Great South Land Minerals. The purpose of the surveys was to identify and note any previously recorded Aboriginal sites within each of the four Survey Areas.

The survey was carried out at the request of Allan Steel, chief Operations Officer for Great South Land Minerals as part of an Exploration Drilling Program.

The survey was undertaken by the writer, Rocky Sainty in January 2007.

Consultation with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (TALSC) and the Aboriginal Heritage Office of the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment was undertaken. It is important to inform and consult with the Aboriginal community on all matters concerning Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council has established policies, protocols and procedures with various government agencies and other parties in terms of ensuring that the Aboriginal community's cultural heritage interests are maintained and protected. All Aboriginal sites are significant to the Aboriginal community.

Section 2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

All four of the Survey Areas are located in what is now known as the Midlands, with one area being in the vicinity of the Great Lakes.

The Midlands is a colloquial term used by non indigenous people to refer to the lowland area between Hobart and Launceston.

The Midlands area is a complex set of climatic, geological, hydrological, floral and faunal interactions. The area has undulating plains, aeolian lunettes, lakes, hills, rivers and source bordering dunes. All these make up a complex area where Aboriginal people used the available resources to live and prosper until the European invasion.

Animal resources consist of small marsupials, such as wallabies, wombats, possums, native cats, platypus, echidnas, Tasmanian Tigers, devils, bandicoots, mice and native rats to name a few. Larger marsupials also existed such as the grey kangaroo. All these animals were hunted by Aboriginal people, along with snakes, lizards, frogs and a wide range of insects. Birds such as water birds, ducks and black swans were used and the eggs were considered to be especially important. Plants were an important part of people's diet and were available on a seasonal basis. The peoples of the area consisted of small clans or family groups, who frequented specific sites within the surrounding country for food harvesting, camping, trade and ceremonial purposes. Aborigines occupied lands across the whole state and utilised resources from surrounding waters and lands. Consequently the Midlands area is rich in Aboriginal history and the Aboriginal community still has strong connections. There will always be concerns when works of any kind are to be undertaken, particularly given the significance of these places to our community.

The information on Aboriginal occupation within the Survey Areas is based on a disjointed collection of observations by Europeans during the invasion of Tasmania. There was no real interest in Aboriginal life styles or cultures during the invasion of Tasmania in the early 1800s. This means that the information available on Aboriginal peoples during this period is limited and subsequent information gained by Archaeologists is at best conjecture, although based on years of discussion and scientific testing. The Tasmanian Aboriginal community is the best source of information on their ancestors and how they utilized the landscape and its resources.

The Aboriginal peoples of this area aggressively tried to keep their country but were defeated by the never ending numbers of non indigenous Europeans. Roving bands of Europeans were organised by the local authorities and were used to kill as many Aboriginal people as they could.

George Augustus Robinson who travelled around the state negotiating the removal of Aboriginal peoples from their homelands recorded at least 6 groups of Aborigines whose country was around the area now known as Campbell Town, and the surrounding country. They were the: MAR.WE.MAIR.RE.NER, the TARE.ER.NO.TEM.ME.TER, the TRUE.MAIR.RE.NER, the ROLE.MAIR.RE, the TY.ER.RER.NO.TE.PAN.NER and the PYER.NOO.HE.PER.NEL.LE. The TY.ER.RER.NO.TE.PAN.NER were also known by the Europeans as the Stony Creek Tribe.

These groups of Aborigines made up the population of the Survey Areas and used the resources available within the land. The sites that are found in the area were created by these peoples over many generations. Aboriginal peoples have been living in Tasmania for at least the last 35,000 years. Aboriginal peoples had a rich and varied social and cultural life and had a complex trading network. This can be seen in the varied types of stone used to make artefacts, some of which have been transported many kilometres from its original source.

Site type found in the Survey Areas will consist of artefact scatters, isolated artefacts, stone and ochre quarries, burials, camping places, rock shelters and major meeting places. All these sites have protection under state legislation, the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*. To impact an Aboriginal "relic" as they are termed under the Act requires a permit from the Minister administering the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*. A permit can be applied for via the Aboriginal Heritage Office in the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Site Index (TASI) at the Aboriginal Heritage Office of the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment was inspected in order to determine if any Aboriginal sites had previously been recorded within any of the four Survey Areas or surrounding areas. This research assists in developing an understanding of the nature of any sites in the general area and also allows a review of any previous studies in the area of field survey. An inspection of the TASI by the Aboriginal Heritage Office revealed that no Aboriginal sites have previously been recorded within either of the four survey areas (see Section 4 below).

Section 3 FIELD METHODS

Each of the following survey areas measured approximately 30m x 30m.

Epping Forest: Lachish #1

The Lachish #1 well site is located near the Valleyfield Road approximately 9 km west of Conara on the property named 'Stockwell' belonging to Mr. James Muirhead (see attached map). The writer walked the entire survey area in transects approximately 1-5 metres apart. Ground visibility was good.

Bracknell: Eglon #1

The Eglon #1 well site is located near Green Rises road on a domal structure in the Longford sub-basin about 3 km east of Bracknell, close to the property named 'Eastbourne' (see attached map). The writer walked the entire survey area in transects approximately 1-5 metres apart. Ground visibility was good.

Tunbridge: Hebron #1

The Hebron #1 well site is located near the Ballochmyle Road approximately 2 km east of Tunbridge on a property named 'Ratharney'. The writer walked the entire survey area in transects approximately 1-5 metres apart. Ground visibility was good.

Great Lakes: Gezer#1

The Gezer#1 well site is located near Little Pine Marsh off Marlborough Road between the towns of Milena and Bronte Park. The well site is about 10km north of Bronte Park and about 0.7 km west of Marlborough highway on the property referred to as 'Serpentine & Roscarbro' belonging to Gunns Limited. The writer walked the entire survey area in transects approximately 1-5 metres apart. Ground visibility was good.

Section 4 RESULTS

Epping Forest: Lachish #1: No Aboriginal sites were found within the study area. However there are a number of sites previously recorded and registered on the TASI (see attached paperwork).

Bracknell: Eglon #1: No Aboriginal sites were found within the study area. However there are a number of sites previously recorded and registered on the TASI (see attached paperwork).

Tunbridge: Hebron #1: No Aboriginal sites were found within the study area. However there are a number of sites previously recorded and registered on the TASI (see attached paperwork).

Great Lakes: Gezer#1: No Aboriginal sites were found within the study area. The closest Aboriginal site to this study area is approximately 6 km away. No paperwork provided.

Section 5 DISCUSSION

Given the Aboriginal occupation of these areas prior to European invasion there is always the possibility of Aboriginal sites being found. The Aboriginal community will always have concerns when works of any kind are to be undertaken within close proximity to waterways and cultural resources, particularly given the significance of these places to our community, both past and present, and the continued connection the Aboriginal community still has with these areas. All Aboriginal sites are significant to the Aboriginal community.

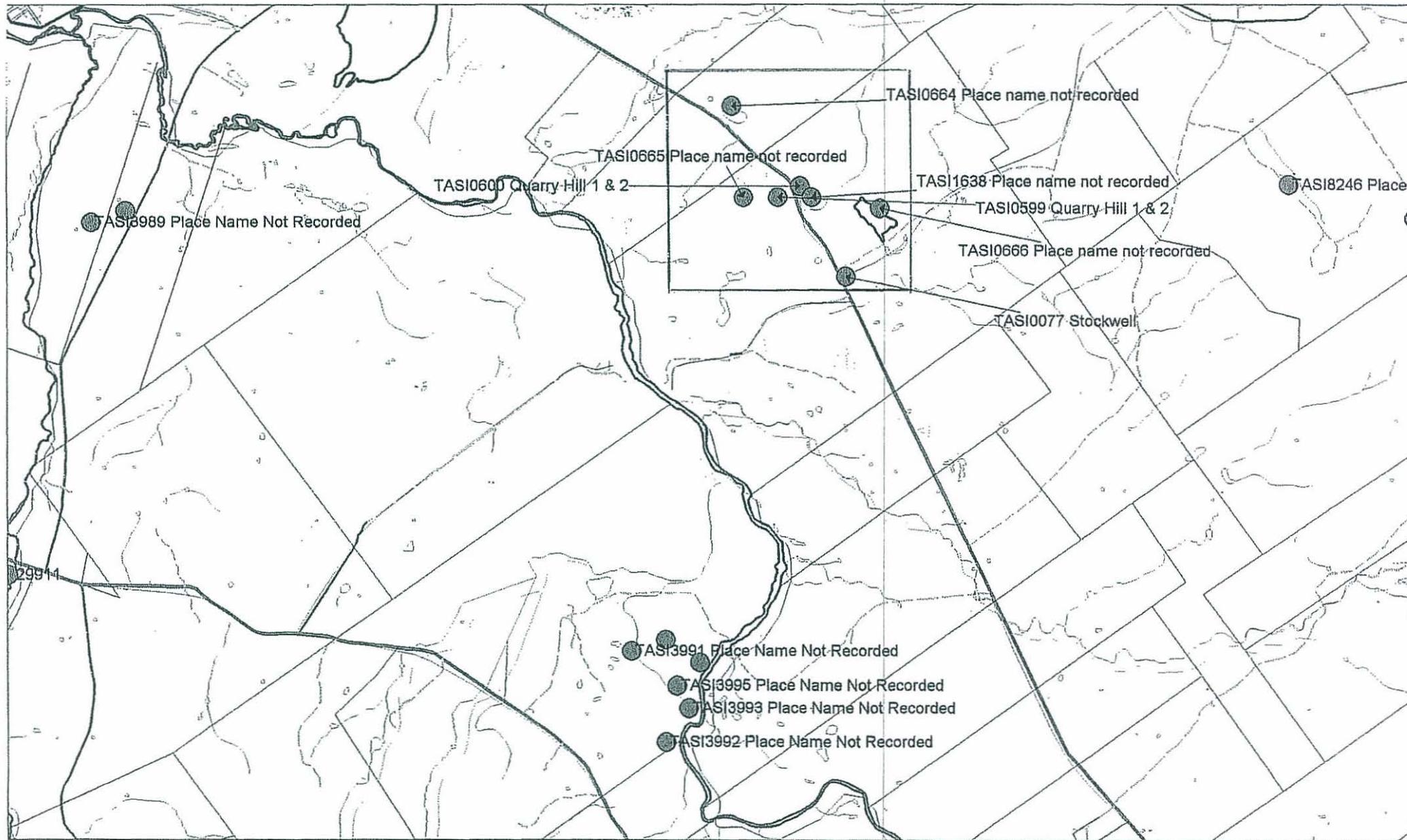
Section 6 RECOMMENDATIONS

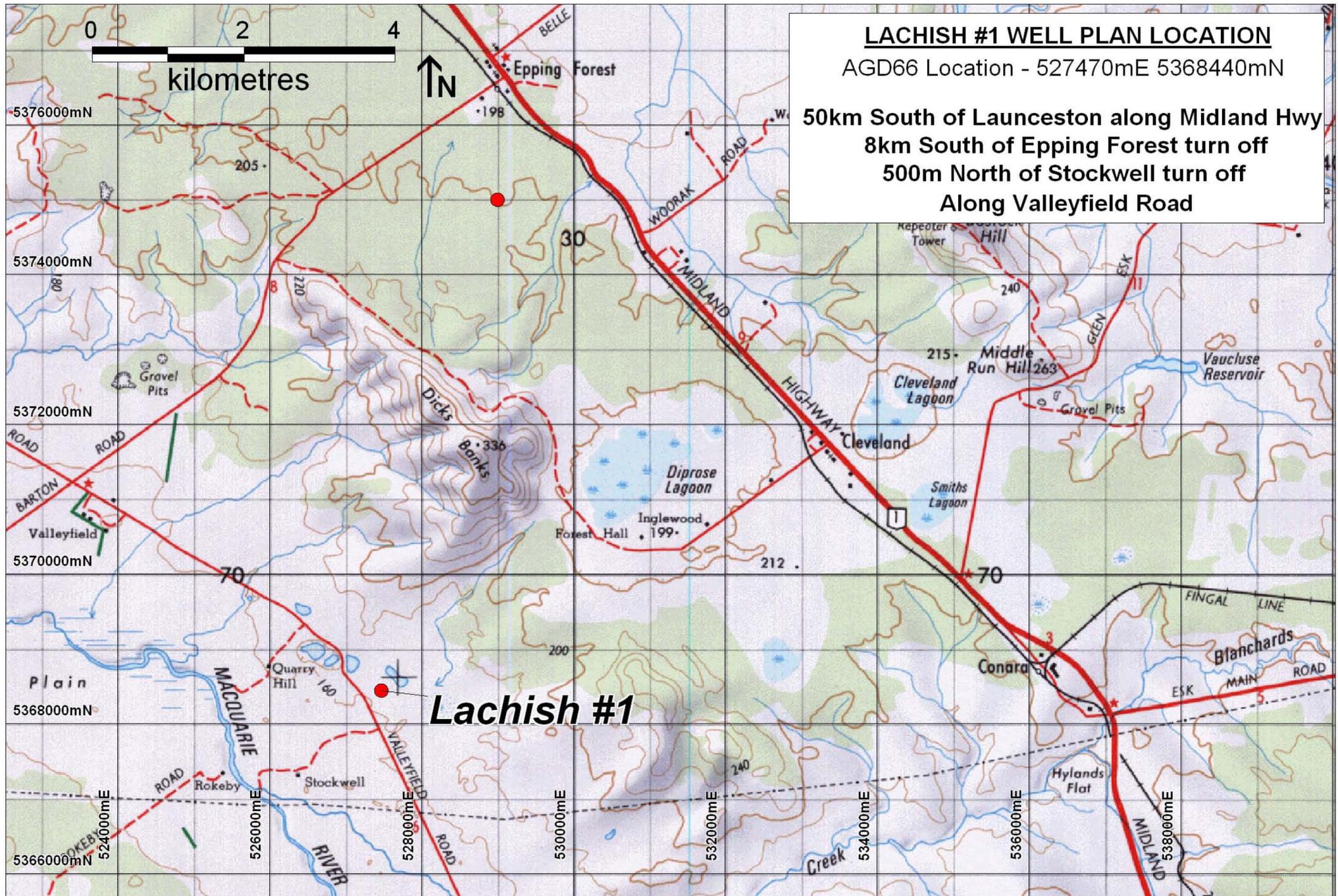
Although no Aboriginal sites were found within either of the four study areas, the writer notes the number of Aboriginal sites already registered on the TASI that are within close proximity to the first three study areas (see Section 4 above). Given the prior occupation and use of these lands, and the results of the TASI search, works should proceed with caution. If any artefacts or cultural material should appear within either of the survey areas as a result of works of any kind, then work is to cease immediately and the TALSC be contacted. Great Southland Minerals Limited should brief the Foremen and Plant Operators with regard to procedures to follow in the event of artefacts or cultural material being unearthed. More information can be obtained by contacting the TALSC.

As contained under Section 14 (1) of the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*:

“Except as otherwise provided in this Act. No person shall, otherwise than in accordance with the terms of a permit granted by the Minister on the recommendation of the Director –

(a) destroy, damage, deface, conceal or otherwise interfere with a relic.”





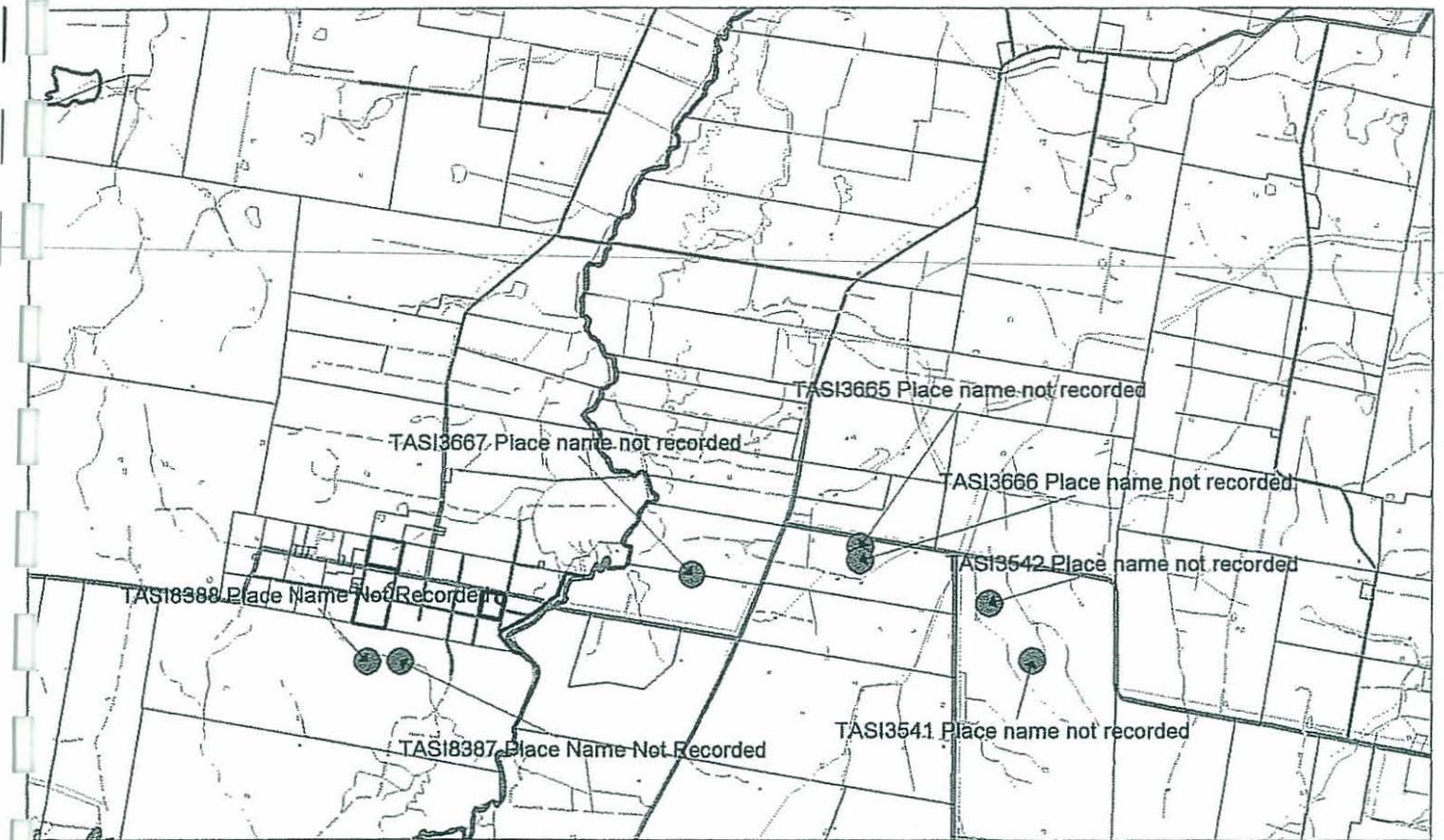
LACHISH #1 WELL PLAN LOCATION

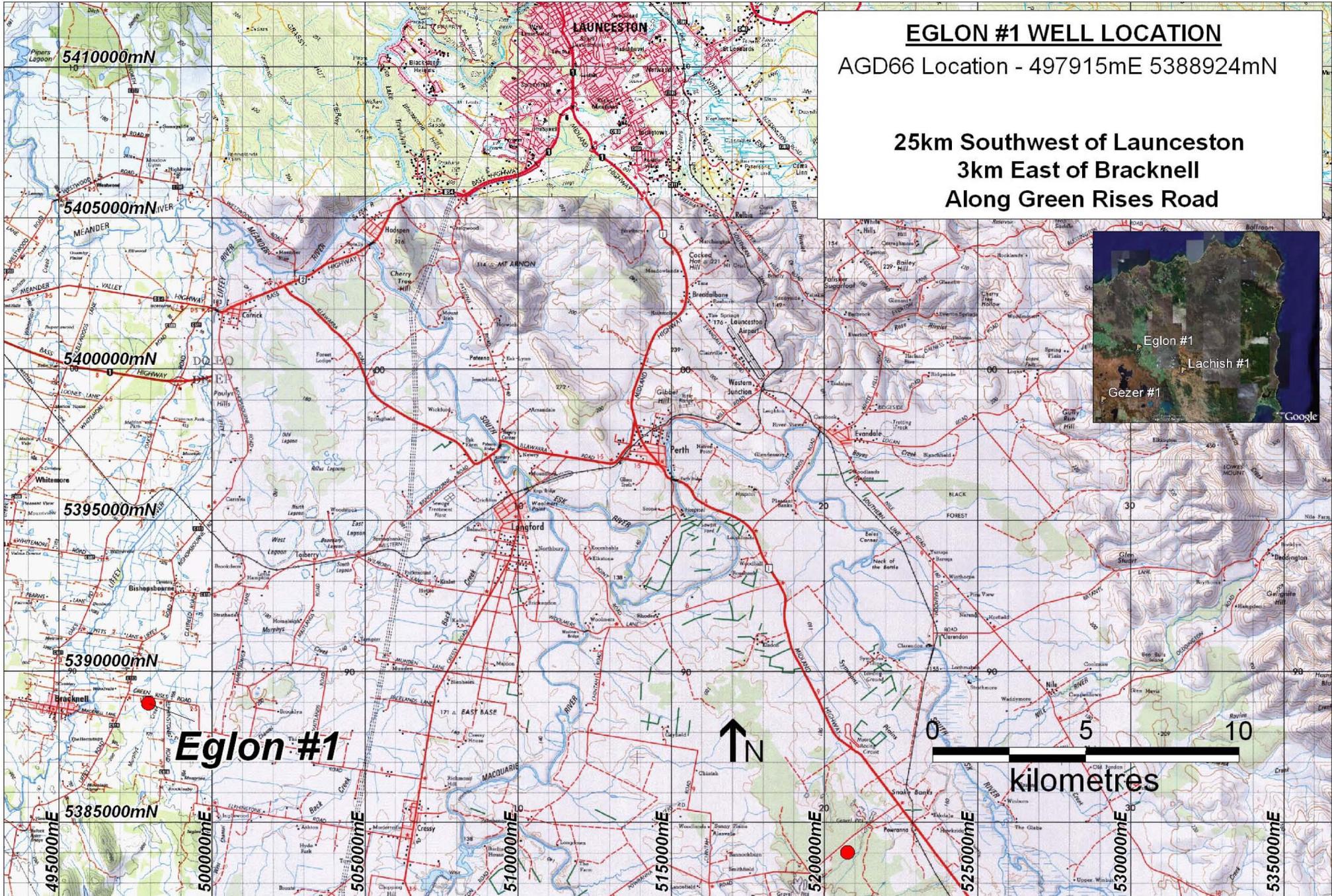
AGD66 Location - 527470mE 5368440mN

50km South of Launceston along Midland Hwy
8km South of Epping Forest turn off
500m North of Stockwell turn off
Along Valleyfield Road

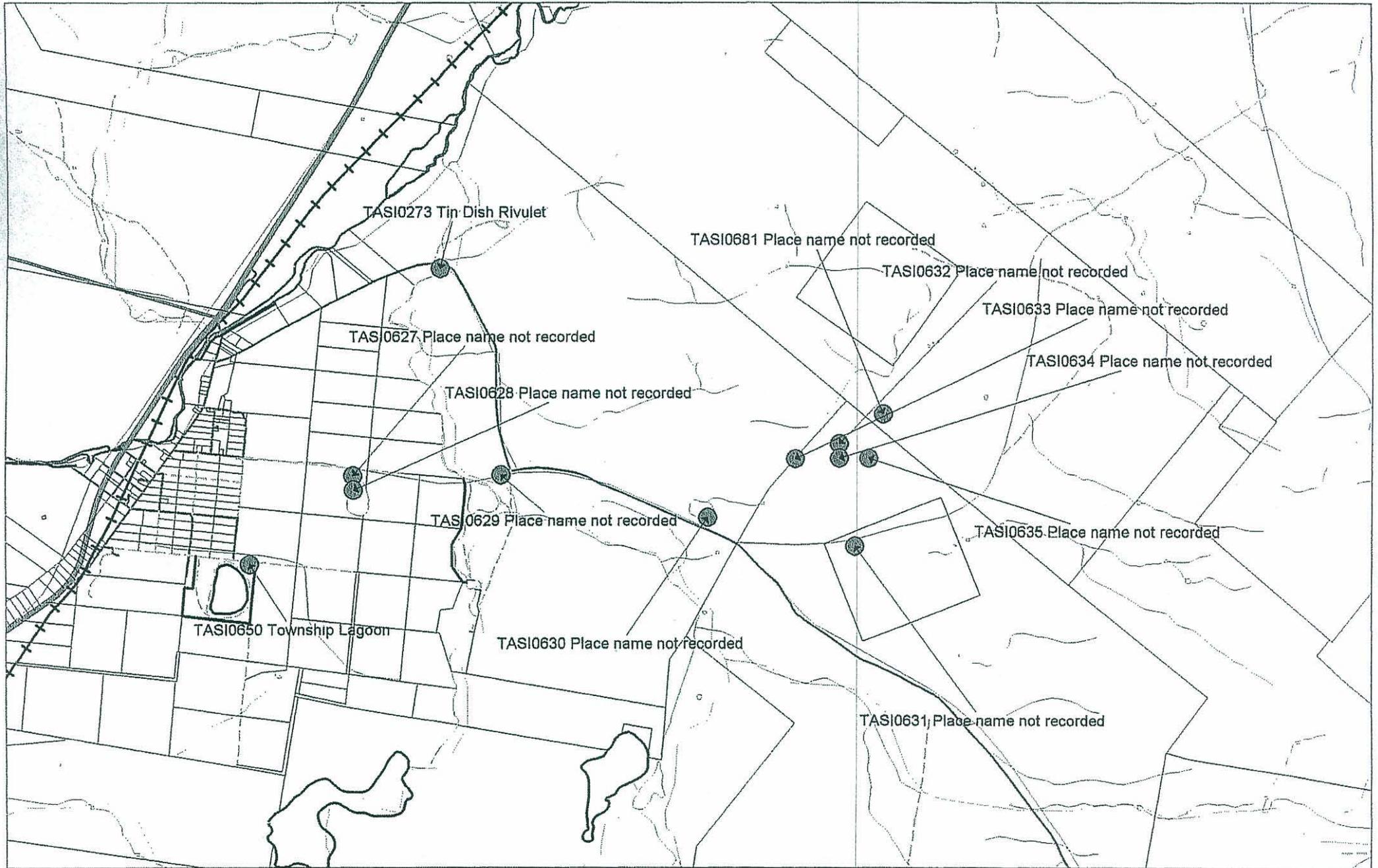
Lachish #1

Liffey





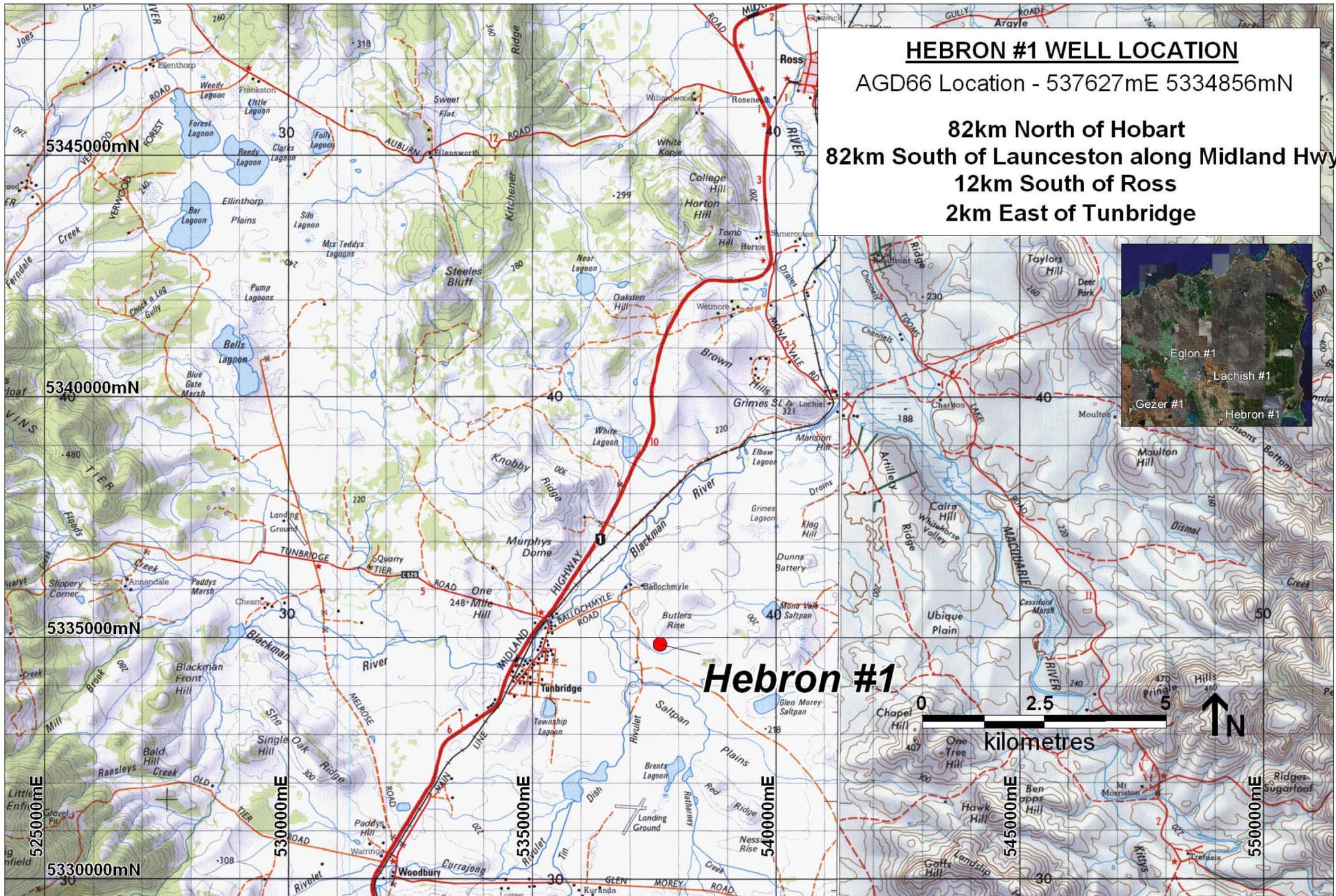
iron bridge 5203

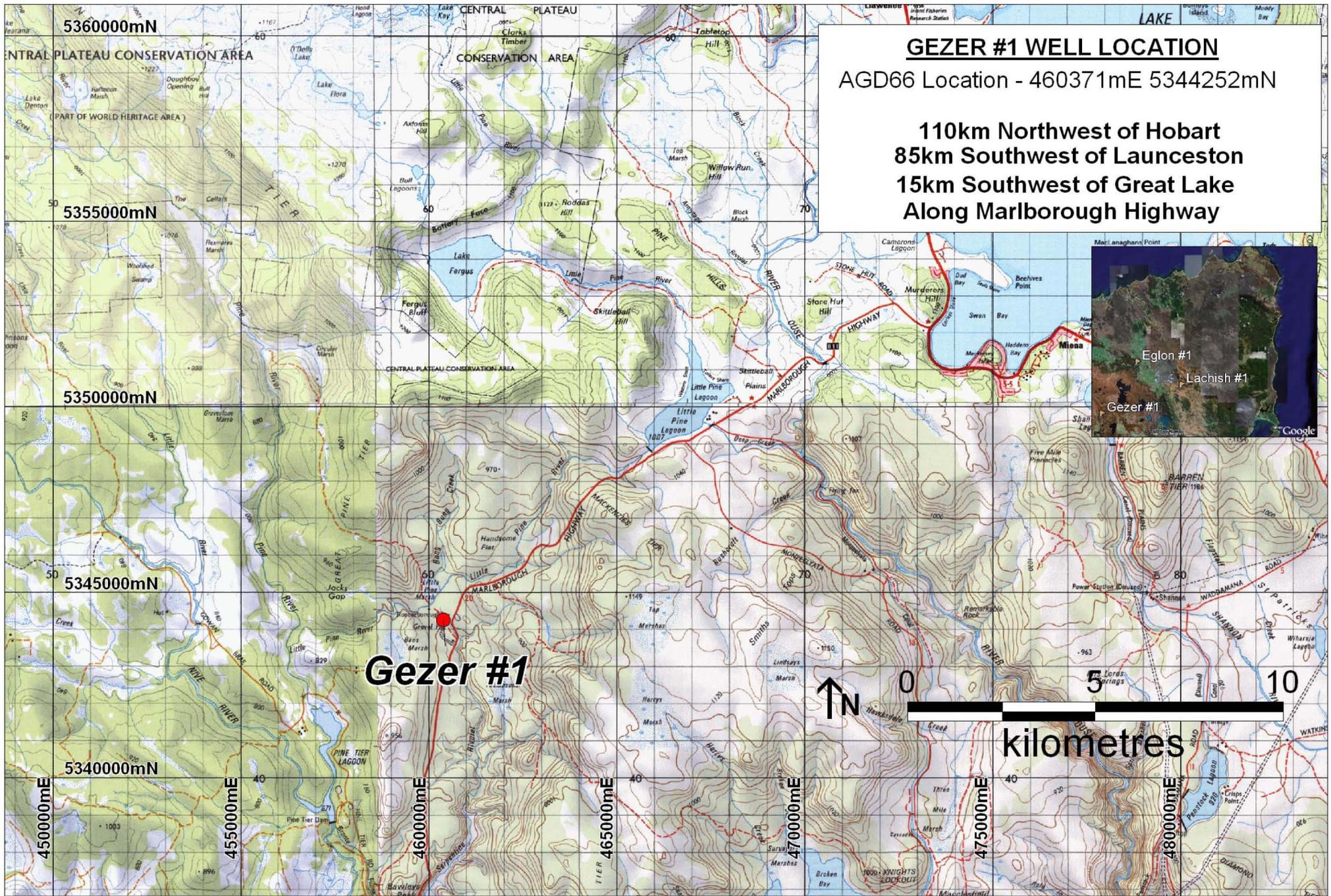


HEBRON #1 WELL LOCATION

AGD66 Location - 537627mE 5334856mN

82km North of Hobart
82km South of Launceston along Midland Hwy
12km South of Ross
2km East of Tunbridge





GEZER #1 WELL LOCATION

AGD66 Location - 460371mE 5344252mN

**110km Northwest of Hobart
85km Southwest of Launceston
15km Southwest of Great Lake
Along Marlborough Highway**

Gezer #1



kilometres

