

Supplementary Form C

Attachment A – Supporting Information

Background

Essendon Fields is a 305-hectare property located eleven kilometers to the north-west of Melbourne's central business district. Essendon Fields comprises the Essendon Airport and surrounding commercial areas.

Since the establishment of international and domestic flights at Melbourne Airport in 1971, Essendon Airports operations and level of aviation activity has steadily declined until 2007. Activity has stabilized since 2008 with increases in rotary and charter activity.

Today the airport contains land and facilities that are surplus to current and projected aviation requirements. This provides the opportunity to pursue aviation initiatives, especially those with a corporate jet focus, and property development opportunities for a wider range of activities.

A masterplan has been prepared to meet statutory obligations under the Airports Act 1886 and sets out a broad framework for development.

The masterplan identifies that there are no threatened flora or fauna identified within the Airport site except for one ecological community listed under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plan (NTGVVP).

The 1998 report prepared by Ecology Australia Pty Ltd at the time of the airport's privatization said Essendon Airport is an area of low biological value. More than seventy years of clearance within the airport grounds and rapid urbanization of surrounding area has contributed to the elimination of most native vegetation in the area.

This EPBC Act permit application is being submitted to facilitate development envisaged by the masterplan.

Proposed Action

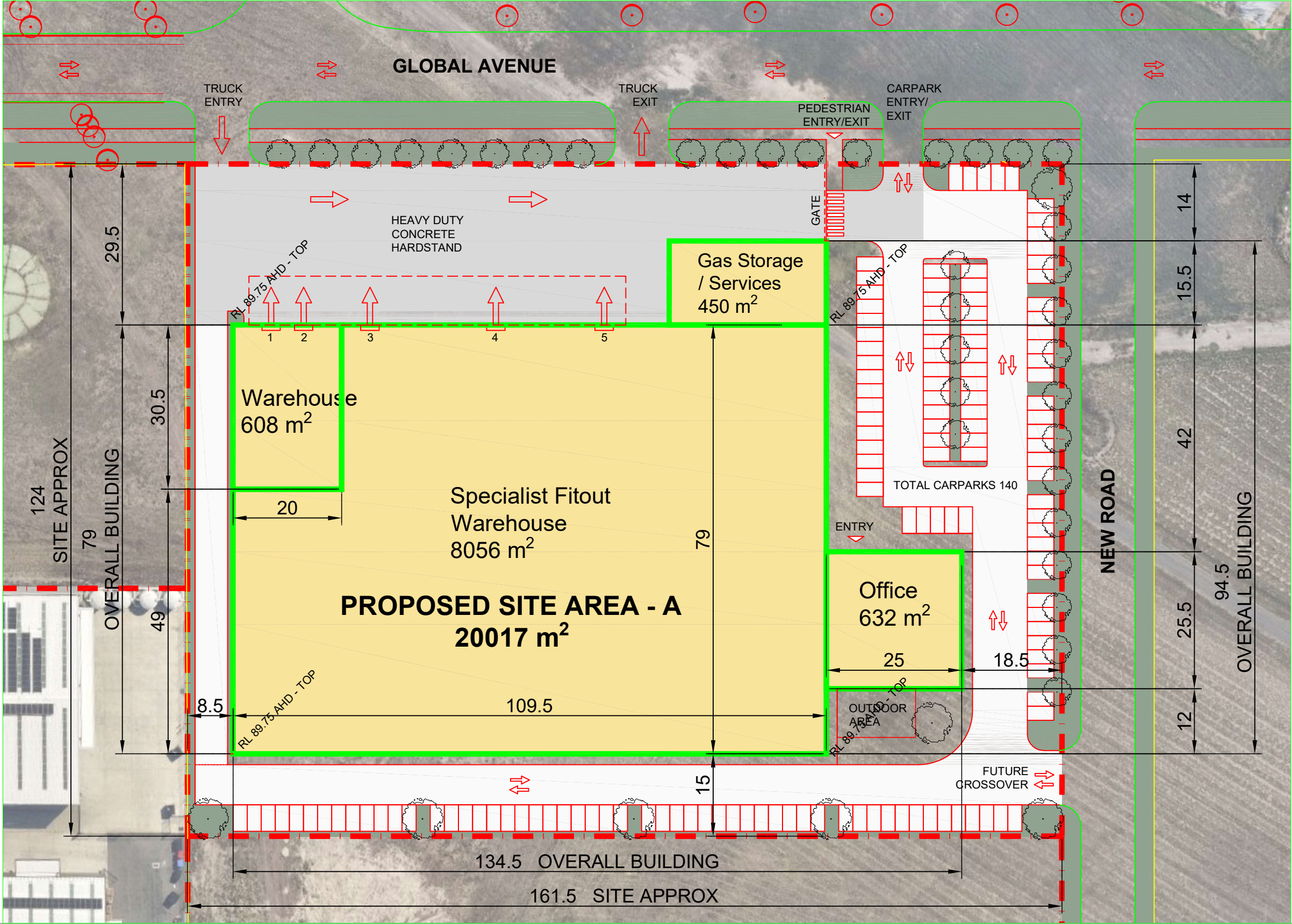
The subject site is identified within the Hart Precinct as per the current masterplan and will support office and industrial uses.

The proposed removal of vegetation is required to facilitate the development of a site for the purpose of a laboratory which is a significant investment into the site and will provide considerable employment opportunities.

Equipment and Methods Used

The clearing of vegetation will be undertaken by construction machinery suitable for this work including bulldozers, excavators, front-end loaders etc.

AREAS:	
SITE AREA:	20016 m ²
BUILDING AREA:	9296 m ²
Specialist Fitout Warehouse:	8056 m ²
Warehouse:	608 m ²
Office:	632 m ²
Gas Storage / Services:	450 m ²
Canopy:	626 m ²
Heavy Duty Concrete Hardstand:	3210 m ²
Asphalt Car Park:	5010 m ²
Staff Outdoor Area:	130 m ²





EAST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION