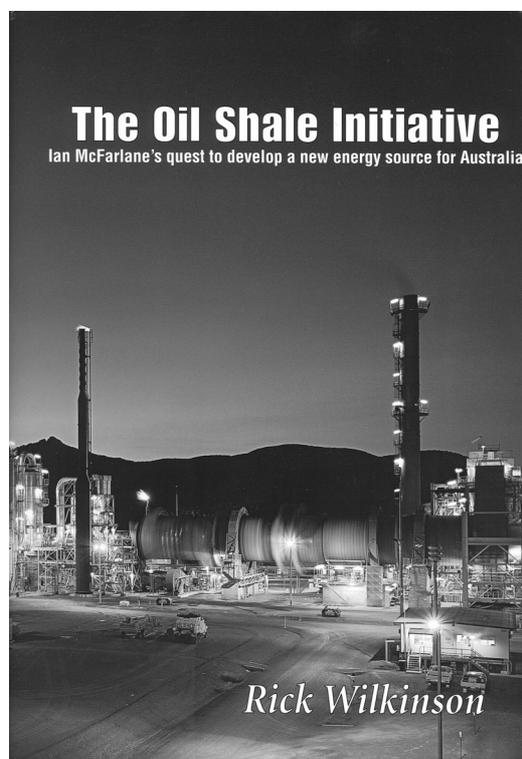


NEW BOOKS



The Oil Shale Initiative tells the fascinating story of the creation of the quest to produce a major new energy source for Australia from the huge oil shale deposits in the State of Queensland.

It tells of the remarkable and dogged persistence of one man – Sir Ian McFarlane – to bring to reality a \$300 million Stuart production facility near Gladstone in central Queensland which can produce a high quality feedstock from oil shale for petroleum refineries.

Noted resources writer Rick Wilkinson tells the intriguing story of the history of oil from shale in Australia and elsewhere around the world and the battles that Sir Ian fought to bring Australia the benefits of shale oil.

Wilkinson also traces in detail the development, during more than 30 years, of the two companies associated with Sir Ian from explorers for minerals, gold, coal, oil and gas around the globe to the production, of oil from shale in Queensland.

The parade of characters who are part of the story include geologists, geophysicists, drillers, camp crews, construction engineers, troubleshooters, stock-brokers, management and directors.

Well illustrated with maps and photographs **The Oil Shale Initiative** is a highly readable tale of a vision to make Australia self-sufficient in petroleum.

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