

11 November 2005

Company Announcements Office  
Australian Stock Exchange Limited  
Level 4, 20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Sir/Madam

### **MONTHLY NET TANGIBLE ASSETS PER SHARE**

The unaudited Net Tangible Asset Backing for Century Australia Investments Limited (“Century Australia”) is as follows:

<b>Month</b>	<b>NTA per share before estimated tax on unrealised income &amp; gains*</b>	<b>NTA per share after estimated tax on unrealised income &amp; gains<sup>#</sup></b>
31 October 2005	1.18	1.14

\* The Net Asset Backing is based on investments at market value and is after provision for tax on net realised gains and before providing for deferred tax on unrealized gains on its long term investments.

<sup>#</sup> Century Australia is a medium to long term investor and does not intend disposing of its total portfolio. However, under AIFRS the Company is required to provide for estimated tax on gains that would arise on such a disposal.

The calculation is based on the Company’s interpretation of law relating to ASX Listing Rule 4.12.

The Australian sharemarket (as measured by the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index) declined during October, finishing down 3.8% for the month. In the Manager’s view, the pull-back seen to date is mild in the context of the market rising 5.1% in September and more than 23% over the past 12 months.

In the Manager’s view, the major themes influencing the market during October included:

- inflationary pressures building in the US, which led to a further increase in US interest rates, and in turn lowered growth expectations and drove a continued rally in the US dollar
- a large number of Annual General Meeting (AGM) comments with respect to Q1 2006 trading conditions carried an uncertain, cautious tone citing amongst other factors subdued consumer confidence, cost pressures and a weak New South Wales housing market. As such, there have been earnings downgrades for a significant number of companies, both large and small and across a variety of sectors over recent weeks



- the New Zealand economic outlook continued to deteriorate with interest rates rising another 25 basis points late in the month, and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand indicating the potential for further tightening
- in terms of commodity markets, there was a softening outlook for coal prices due to both weaker demand and increasing supply (particularly thermal and lower grade coking coal), along with weakness in the nickel price and volatility in the copper price. In addition, the oil price dropped almost 10% during the month
- bank reporting season began with headline numbers largely in line with expectations, although in the Manager's view some quality/sustainability issues emerged

The sectors hardest hit in October were those that have been the major positive drivers of the market both in September and year to date, notably the Energy (Woodside, Santos) and Materials (BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, Bluescope Steel, Rinker) sectors which fell 11% and 7% respectively.

The Industrials sector was also weak led by Wesfarmers which lowered coking coal production forecasts. The Consumer Discretionary sector also lagged, driven by Fairfax and Ten Network, as the advertising growth outlook softened. With bond yield expectations rising, infrastructure stocks came off sharply as did related stocks including Macquarie Bank and Babcock and Brown.

The telecommunications sector performed well, rising 3%, driven by Telstra as no further negative news emerged from its AGM and the dividend yield provided support. The financials (ex property) sector also outperformed the broader market led by Commonwealth Bank and National Australia Bank. AMP and AXA Asia Pacific both outperformed the market during October after releasing respectable third quarter fund flow data.

Century Australia's underlying investment portfolio declined by less than the markets fall, producing a return of -2.40% for the month of October. The portfolio therefore, outperformed its benchmark, the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index, by 1.4%.

In terms of portfolio activity during the month, the Manager built a new position in Coles Myer and continued to increase its holdings in Insurance Australia Group, Promina, and Commonwealth Bank due to attractive valuations. The Manager has further reduced its positions in ANZ Bank, BHP Billiton, and St George Bank.

Despite the modest fall in the market during October, the Manager continues to be concerned about high company valuations and retain its cautious outlook on the Australian sharemarket.



The Top Holdings of the Company as at the 31 October 2005 were as follows:

Security Name	% of Portfolio
Westpac Banking Corporation	7.34
National Australia Bank Limited	6.25
BHP Billiton Limited	5.94
Telstra Corporation Limited	5.00
Insurance Australia Group	4.90
Rio Tinto Limited	3.83
News Corporation	3.54
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	2.92
AXA Asia Pacific Holdings Limited	2.87
AMP Limited	2.74

By order of the Board  
Century Australia Investments Limited

R O'Donnell  
(Company Secretary)

