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Emerge Environmental Services Pty Ltd ABN 57144772510 trading as Emerge Associates

Attention: Ashley Walker Dodd and Dodd Pty Ltd 503 Dundas Road Forrestfield WA 6058

Delivered by email to: ashley.walker@recyclers.com.au

**Dear Ashley** 

## TARGETED FLORA SURVEY – PART LOT 550 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 414367, TALANDJI

#### 1 BACKGROUND

Dodd and Dodd Pty Ltd are proposing to clear native vegetation within a 7 hectare (ha) portion of Lot 550 on Deposited Plan 414367 in Talandji (herein referred to as the 'site'), as shown in **Figure 1**.

A waste decommissioning facility and associated access road are proposed to be developed within the site. Dodd and Dodd Pty Ltd have submitted a clearing permit application to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (ref. CPS 10201/1). DWER have issued a draft clearing permit which requests a pre-clearance targeted flora survey to identify possible occurrences of following priority flora species:

- Abutilon sp. Onslow (F. Smith s.n. 10/9/61) (Priority 3)<sup>1</sup>
- Abutilon sp. Pritzelianum (S. van Leeuwen 5095) (Priority 3)
- Triumfetta echinata (Priority 3).

#### 2 SCOPE OF WORK

Emerge were engaged by Dodd and Dodd Pty Ltd to undertake a targeted flora survey to meet the request from DWER and in accordance with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) *Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact* (EPA 2016).

As part of this scope of work, the following tasks were undertaken:

 A desktop review of relevant previous flora surveys and information on threatened and priority flora species which may occur in the site, with focus on the three species listed by DWER.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note this species is stated as Priority 3 in the DWER draft clearing permit but is listed as Priority 3 in the current DBCA priority flora list (<a href="https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/wildlife-and-ecosystems/plants/list-threatened-and-priority-flora">https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/wildlife-and-ecosystems/plants/list-threatened-and-priority-flora</a>)

- A field survey to search for threatened and priority flora.
- Documentation of the desktop review, methods, results, discussion and conclusions.

#### 3 METHODS

#### 3.1 Field survey

A botanist<sup>2</sup> from Emerge visited the site on 31 August 2023 to conduct the field survey.

During the survey the site was traversed on foot and the vegetation was searched for the three priority flora species listed in **Section 1**. Other threatened and priority flora species were also searched for whilst traversing the site.

Photographs were taken throughout the field visit to show particular site conditions. A track log was recorded using a hand-held GPS unit.

#### 4 RESULTS

No threatened or priority flora species were recorded and none are considered likely to occur. The track log is shown in **Figure 2**.

#### 5 DISCUSSION

The three priority flora species specified by DWER, *Abutilon* sp. Onslow (F. Smith s.n. 10/9/61), *Abutilon* sp. Pritzelianum (S. van Leeuwen 5095) and *Triumfetta echinata* are not considered to occur as the site was surveyed comprehensively during the current survey and they were not recorded.

Abutilon sp. Pritzelianum (S. van Leeuwen 5095) and *Triumfetta echinata* were recorded in September 2017 approximately 1-3 kilometers (km) north-west of the site (three and one individuals, respectively) (Phoenix Environmental Sciences 2017). However, a subsequent survey in February and March 2018 could not re-confirm the presence of *Abutilon* sp. Pritzelianum (S. van Leeuwen 5095) and the one *Triumfetta echinata* individual was dead (Phoenix Environmental Sciences 2018). Suitable habitat for *Abutilon* sp. Onslow (F. Smith s.n. 10/9/61) occurs within the site but it has not been recorded in the site or surrounds during previous surveys (Phoenix Environmental Sciences 2017, 2018).

Abutilon sp. Onslow (F. Smith s.n. 10/9/61), Abutilon sp. Pritzelianum (S. van Leeuwen 5095) and Triumfetta echinata are all perennials and so would be visible throughout the year. They are also known to flower in August, so would have been identifiable during the survey, if present. No plants which may have represented these species were recorded within the site during the survey. Therefore, since these species (and other threatened and priority flora species) have not been recorded in the site during the two previous surveys (Phoenix Environmental Sciences 2017, 2018) and the current survey, they are not considered to occur.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rachel Weber, 13 years experience, flora taking (biological assessment) licence FB62000614

### **Summary and closing**

No threatened or priority flora species were recorded in the site, including the three priority flora species specified by DWER in the draft clearing permit. The survey was undertaken by a suitably experienced botanist and at an appropriate time of year to detect the species identified by DWER as potentially occurring.

We trust that this letter provides sufficient details on the vegetation within the site. Should you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely Emerge Associates

**Rachel Weber** 

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT, TEAM LEADER - ECOLOGY

Encl: Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Track Log

#### 6 REFERENCES

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) 2016, *Technical Guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys* for Environmental Impact Assessment, Perth.

Phoenix Environmental Sciences 2017, Flora and vegetation survey and terrestrial fauna survey for the Pilbara Regional Waste Management Facility, 1174-OWM-TAL-ECO, Version 2.0.

Phoenix Environmental Sciences 2018, *Detailed flora and vegetation survey for the Pilbara Regional Waste Management Facility*, 1192-PRW-TAL-BOT, Version 0.

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# Figures



Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Track Log



