



Application for new permit or referral to clear native vegetation

This is the form to submit a referral of proposed clearing or apply for a clearing permit under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Before you submit this form, please check you have completed all the fields for the form type and fully prepared any required supporting documents (maps etc.). The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) or Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) will return/decline any forms that are not correctly completed.

To find out more about the stages of assessment for clearing permit forms, see the [Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits](#).

Part 1 – Form type

<p>Select your form type.</p> <p>Note: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms ‘application’ and ‘applicant’ also mean ‘referral’ and ‘referrer’ respectively.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</p>
<p>Which department are you submitting this form to?</p> <p>If the clearing is for mineral and petroleum activities authorised under the <i>Mining Act 1978</i>, the various petroleum Acts, and/or a State Agreement with areas covered by either mineral or petroleum tenure granted under one of the abovementioned Acts, select ‘Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety’.</p> <p>For all other clearing activities, select ‘Department of Water and Environmental Regulation’.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Department of Water and Environmental Regulation</p>

Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name

For area permits: If granted, the name(s) of (all) landowner(s) will be listed as 'permit holders' on the permit. For purpose permits: If granted, the name(s) of (all) applicant(s) will go on the permit.	<input type="checkbox"/> Applying as an individual – complete the following:	
	Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
	Name(s)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applying as a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the following:	
	Name	MEPAU Perth Basin Pty Ltd.
	Australian Company Number (ACN)	009 204 031
<input type="checkbox"/> Applying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local government authority, or other statutory body)		
	Name	

2.2 Applicant contact details

Provide the contact details for the above (primary contact).

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Position	
Company name	
Phone number	
Email address	

2.3 Applicant contact postal details

Provide the postal address for the above individual, body corporate or local government authority (primary contact).

Address line 1	
Address line 2	

Suburb	
State	

2.4 Applicant contact – registered business address

If applying as a company, incorporated body, local government authority or public authority, please also supply the registered business office address.

Address line 1	
Address line 2	
Suburb	
State	
Phone number	

2.5 Electronic correspondence consent

DWER/DEMIRS prefer to send all correspondence via email. We request that you consent to receiving all correspondence relating to instruments and notices under Part V of the EP Act via email. Please indicate your consent in this section of the form.

I consent that all written correspondence between myself (the applicant) and DWER/DEMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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2.6 Contact details for enquiries

If different from the applicant's contact details, enter the contact details of a person with whom DWER/DEMIRS should liaise with (e.g. a consultant).

Same as applicant's contact details	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

Part 3 – Land details

- You must accurately describe the location of the land where your clearing is proposed.
- Provide copies of associated documents registered against the Certificate of Title (limitations, interests, encumbrances or notifications) where the clearing may impact them (i.e. caveats within freehold Lots).
- If you have a large number of properties, please provide the relevant details for each property in a separately attached supporting document.

I have a large number of properties and have given the relevant details in an attached supporting document.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – skip to Part 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

<p>Land description</p> <p>Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – volume and folio number – lot or location number(s) – crown lease or reserve number – pastoral lease number – mining tenement number 	<p>Petroleum Title – Production Licence 1 (L1)</p> <p>Petroleum Title – Production Licence 2 (L2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 40 on Plan 23881 • Lot 1 on Diagram 54328 • Lot 6467 on Deposited Plan 246873 • Lot 1888 on Deposited Plan 248587 • Lot 839 on Deposited Plan 246561 • Lot M353 on Plan 2994 • Lot M363 on Plan 2947 • Lot 8208 on Deposited Plan 137766 • Lot 6474 on Deposited Plan 246879 • Lot 1316 on Deposited Plan 246696 • Lot 1184 on Deposited Plan 246679 • Lot 1185 on Deposited Plan 246686 • Lot 2 on Diagram 54534
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lot 21 on Plan 20774 		
Street address – Line 1	Brand Highway, Piggery Lane & Yardarino Road		
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Yardarino		
State	WA	Postcode	6525
Local government area(s)	Shire of Irwin		
Land zoning	General Farming		

Part 4 – Relationship to landowner

Tell us which of the following options best describes you as the person completing and submitting this form. If you are filling out this form on behalf of the applicant, answer this question as though you are the applicant.

Proof of ownership may include:

- a certificate of title
- a pastoral or mining lease
- public authority that has care, control or management of the land
- other form of lease, land tenure or specific arrangement.

Relationship to landowner (select one of the following options)	Complete the following
<input type="checkbox"/> I am the landowner	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership
<input type="checkbox"/> I am lodging a form on behalf of the landowner (e.g. a consultant)	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership
<input type="checkbox"/> I am acting on the landowner's behalf and will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit (i.e. joint form)	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Attach a letter, in which the landowner authorises you to act on their behalf and acknowledge they will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit
<input type="checkbox"/> I am likely to become the landowner	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach evidence of the pending transfer of ownership, including details of current proprietor on certificate of title, and/or contract of sale ('offer and acceptance')
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I will undertake the clearing activities with the landowner's authority and will be the permit holder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attach a letter, in which the landowner authorises you to access and clear native vegetation within the property(ies) as detailed in section 3.1 (if the applicant is not the landowner)
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a person with multiple land parcels within which clearing is proposed	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership and/or <input type="checkbox"/> Attach letters, in which the landowner authorises you to access and clear native vegetation within the properties as detailed in section 3.1 (if the applicant is not the landowner)
<input type="checkbox"/> I will undertake the clearing activities through the exercise of power conferred by different legislation (e.g. the <i>Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide relevant legislative details:

Part 5 – Proposed clearing

5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

<p>Select which map type(s) you will attach with your form.</p> <p>Note: DWER/DEMIRS will decline/return forms (as applicable) if you do not provide sufficient information for this question.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (preferred)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geometry type: polygon shape • Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 2020 (geographic latitude/longitude) • Datum: GDA 2020 <p><input type="checkbox"/> An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ESRI shapefile must use one of the following filename extensions: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and/or .prj • You must provide an ESRI shapefile if the form requires an assessment under an <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) accredited process. See Part 8 of this form for more information.
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5.2 Size

- If you propose to clear a patch(es) of vegetation, enter a hectare value for the total size of the area (mark number of trees as zero). For example, “clearing of 5 hectares”.
- If you propose to clear only individual trees (i.e. the shrubs, grasses, groundcover plants will remain intact), provide the number of trees. For example, “clearing of 10 trees”. If any shrubs, grasses, and/or groundcover plants **may** be damaged in the clearing process, enter the total area only.
- If you propose to clear an area of native vegetation within a larger footprint, enter the hectare value for the total size of the area to be cleared (mark number of trees as zero) and the size of the footprint. For example, 5 hectares of clearing within a 10-hectare footprint. This option is only available for purpose permit applications.
- Enter values for **both** number of trees and the size of the area **only if** you are clearing individual trees in one area **and** a patch of vegetation in a different area.
- Please note the following area conversions/calculations:

1 hectare = 10,000 m²

1 acre = 0.4 hectares/4,000 m²

1 tree = 0.01 hectares/100 m²

Area of circle = 3.14 x radius²

Area of a rectangle = length x width

Area of a triangle = ½ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	5.5 ha
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	9.6 ha
Number of individual trees to be cleared	0

Note: Calculate the area of a tree based on the area encompassed by the tree's drip line; that being the outermost circumference of the tree's canopy.

5.3 Purpose

<p>Provide the reason for proposed clearing (e.g. road construction, grazing and pasture, hazard reduction, horticulture, timber harvesting etc.).</p> <p>If applicable, provide any additional project overview or explain in detail the activities on the property (e.g. provide context of work proposed and describe how clearing will contribute to overall work activities onsite etc.).</p>	<p>Decommissioning and site reinstatement of the Dongara Gas Field requires clearing of regrowth vegetation (greater than 10 years) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flowline Removal – to remove existing buried flowlines for decommissioning. The right of way will be cleared of regrowth vegetation where required to undertake flowline removal at a width of 3-7 m within the proposed clearing permit boundary. • Well Plug & Abandonment – clearing of regrowth and planted vegetation will occur within the existing well sites required for the drill rig package to assist in decommissioning (plug and abandonment) of the well. • Site Reinstatement – to return the land to its previous state or to the landowner's request in line with the approved land access agreement.
<p>Specify what the final land use will be after clearing</p>	<p>Cleared areas for flowline removal or well plug and abandonment will be reinstated to a condition suitable for the land use at the time of decommissioning or to the landowner's request in line with the approved land access agreement.</p>

5.4 Method

<p>Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)</p>	<p>Vegetation clearing activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing area will be approved under internal processes and clearly demarcated; • Clearing will be by mechanical methods including a grader or batter bucket excavator, with vegetation stockpiled or windrowed along the boundary; • Topsoil will generally be stripped to a nominal depth of 100 mm and be windrowed prior to decommissioning activities. Windrowed topsoil will be kept separate from windrowed vegetative material.
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5.5 Timeframe

Period within which you propose to do the clearing (e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)	Flowline removal: Q1 2025 to Q4 2026. Well Plug & Abandonment: Timing will be on an as required basis per the MEPAU Plug and Abandonment schedule.
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Note: The clearing referral process is not suitable for any clearing that is expected to take longer than two years.

5.6 Pre-application scoping

Historic clearing of native vegetation in the Swan Coastal Plain and Avon Wheatbelt [Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia](#) (IBRA) bioregions has been extensive.

DWER/DEMIRS strongly recommends a pre-application meeting if you propose to clear native vegetation within these bioregions.

Do you propose to clear native vegetation within the Swan Coastal Plain or Avon Wheatbelt bioregions?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – complete section below		
	<input type="checkbox"/> I have had a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS		
	<table border="1"><tr><td>Insert date of meeting and officer name(s):</td><td></td></tr></table>	Insert date of meeting and officer name(s):	
	Insert date of meeting and officer name(s):		
	<input type="checkbox"/> I have contacted DWER/DEMIRS in relation to a pre-application meeting and been advised that a meeting is unnecessary in this case.		
<table border="1"><tr><td>Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):</td><td></td></tr></table>	Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):		
Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have not had a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS. I understand that this may increase the likelihood of requests for further information and/or delays in assessment.		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – proceed to next question.		

Part 6 – Mitigation hierarchy

6.1 Avoidance and mitigation

Explain how you have, or will, put avoidance and mitigation measures in place to eliminate, reduce, or otherwise mitigate the need for and scale of the proposed clearing of native vegetation.

Attach supporting documents to substantiate your explanation.

Your explanation should demonstrate you have planned the project so that the least clearing possible is to be undertaken. The following questions may help you frame your explanation:

- Why did you select this location and amount of clearing?
- What alternatives to clearing – e.g. engineering solutions – did you consider? (Attach design drawings where applicable)
- What changes, if any, did you make to the location or amount of clearing to reduce the impacts of the clearing?

Note: If you do not demonstrate adequate efforts to avoid and mitigate clearing, DWER/DEMIRS will ask you to do so during the validation of this application. Offsets will only be considered by DWER/DEMIRS as a last resort, once avoidance and minimisation measures have been clearly demonstrated.

Provide the avoidance details (e.g. retention of vegetation on property)	<p>Flowline removal activities will utilise the following methods to reduce the amount of clearing during decommissioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of the scope will require excavation to recover the flowlines. • Where possible the bell hole method will be used to avoid clearing of large trees. In particular, the section above the buried flowline will be excavated as close as possible to the upstream of the large trees to expose the buried line. A bell hole will then be excavated downstream of the large vegetation/trees to expose the buried pipe. Using the shears on the excavator, a cut will be made to the exposed section of flowline; • A pulling sling will be attached to the flowline and pulled from the cleared position until the line is clear of the ground and in position for cutting into lengths for transport to scrap metal recycler; • This process will be repeated in 100 m increments if the pipe is free enough to pull. Alternatively, smaller sections of pipe will be pulled. • Flowline right of way in areas of dense native vegetation will be cleared to a width of 3m to 7m to allow for equipment and vehicle access.
Provide the mitigation details (e.g. management of weed spread, rehabilitation)	<p>Mitigation and management measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicles and machinery will undergo hygiene requirements and be cleaned of vegetative and soil material prior to arrival onsite. • All personnel will be inducted prior to arriving onsite. • Land areas will be reinstated to a condition suitable for the land use at the time of decommissioning and site reinstatement, except any infrastructure agreed to remain in place in agreement with the Landowner; • Earthworks conducted under dry soil conditions to re-contour areas to meet the final landform design; • Ripping of compacted soils to a depth of approximately 50 cm to 100 cm (depending on the depth of topsoil) to relieve compaction and disperse any remaining in situ gravel;

6.2 Offsets

Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure guideline as a supporting document for your form.	<input type="checkbox"/> Appendix A attached

Part 7 – Surveys for assessments (IBSA and IMSA)

Do you want to submit marine or biodiversity surveys in support of your form?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – skip to Part 8
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7.1 Biodiversity surveys

If you want to submit any biodiversity surveys to support this form, you must follow the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) [Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments](#) (IBSA). If you do not meet the IBSA requirements, DWER/DEMIRS will decline/return your form.

Please provide the IBSA number(s) – or submission number(s) if the IBSA number has not yet been issued – in the space provided. Note that a submission number is not confirmation that a biodiversity survey has been accepted and is not the same as an IBSA number. IBSA numbers are only issued once a survey has been accepted. Once an IBSA number is issued, please notify DWER/DEMIRS. Please note DWER/DEMIRS will suspend the assessment timeframes for your application until you provide the IBSA number(s).

Have you submitted all the biodiversity surveys that support this form to the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessment ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	

7.2 Marine surveys

If you want to submit any marine surveys to support this form, you must follow the EPA's [Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments](#) (IMSA). If you do not meet the IMSA requirements, DWER/DEMIRS will decline/return your form.

Have you prepared all the marine surveys that support this form in accordance with the EPA's <i>Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
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Part 8 – Assessment bilateral agreement

The native vegetation clearing processes under Part V of the EP Act have been accredited by the Commonwealth of Australia under the EPBC Act and so can be assessed under an assessment bilateral agreement.

To be assessed this way, the proposed clearing action must have been referred to the Commonwealth under the EPBC Act and deemed a '**controlled action**' before you submit this form. DWER/DEMIRS will decline to deal with your application without the proposed clearing first being deemed a controlled action.

For further information, see DWER's [guidance on the assessment bilateral agreement](#).