

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number:

1196/4

File Number:

DEC9634

Duration of Permit:

From 15 April 2007 to 15 April 2014

PERMIT HOLDER

BHP Billiton Nickel West Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 17 ON PLAN 193801 (LEINSTER 6437)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 10.92 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 1196/4.

CONDITIONS

Nil

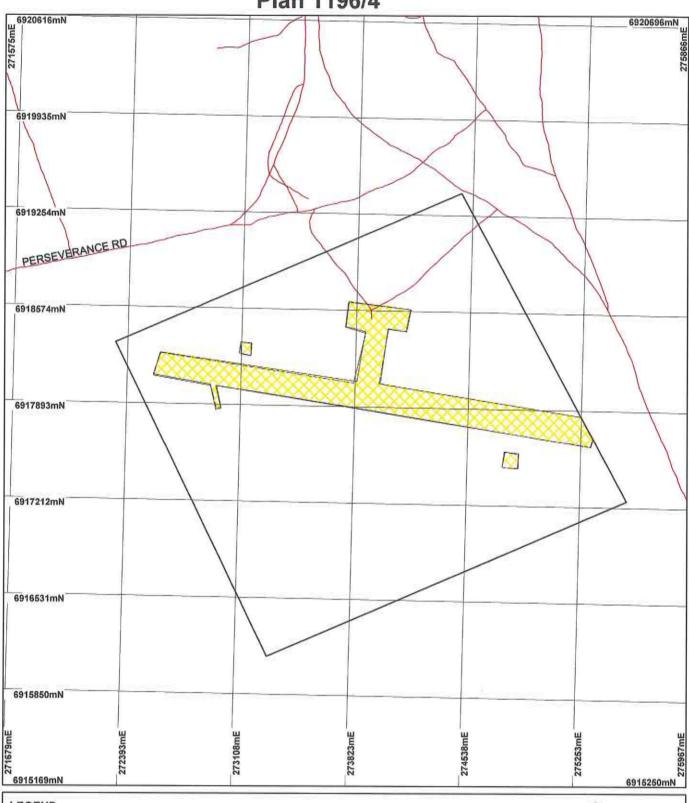
Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

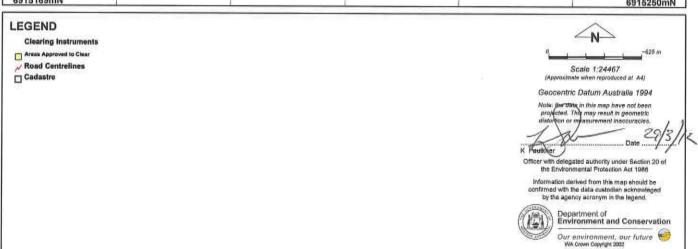
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

29 March 2012

Plan 1196/4







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

1196/4

Permit type:

Area Permit

Proponent details

Proponent's name:

BHP Nickel West Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

10.92

LOT 17 ON PLAN 193801 (LEINSTER 6437)

Local Government Area:

Shire of Leonora

Colloquial name:

Leinster Airport

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

Mechanical Removal

For the purpose of: Miscellaneous

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Grant

Decision Date:

29 March 2012

2. Site Information

Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Beard Associations 18: low woodlands, mulga (Acacia

aneura)

and

39: Shrublands, mulga scrub

(Hopkins et al. 2001, Shepherd et al. 2001). Clearing Description

BHP Billiton Nickel West has applied to extend the duration of their existing permit CPS 1196/3 by 2 years as works to undertake an expansion of the current airport to accommodate for larger aircrafts have not yet been undertaken.

The area applied to be cleared was extensively surveyed in 1997 by Landcare Services Pty Ltd. During this survey, floristic communities were identified and include

Lateritic mulga-wanderrie shrublands,

Lateritic hardpan mulga shrubs,

Stony plain acacia eremophila shrublands and drainage tract mulga shrublands/woodlands. The condition of the area is considered to be of poor quality as

a result of high feral goat grazing pressures (BHP Billiton, 2005).

Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed: regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The information on the vegetation description and condition was obtained from the Vegetation Clearing Permit Application Report (BHP Billiton, 2005)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

BHP Billiton Nickel West has applied to extend the duration of their existing permit CPS 1196/3 by 2 years as works have not yet been undertaken. The applicant advised the proposed clearing area has only been demarcated.

The area under application has not changed (10.92 hectares).

A review of current environmental information reveals no additional information. Therefore the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 1196/3.

Planning instruments, Native Title, Previous EPA decisions or other matters.

Comments

The proponent has applied to extend the duration of the permit CPS 1196/3 by 2 years. The permit will now expire on 15 April 2014.

No submissions from the public have been received.

4. Glossary

Term Meaning

BCS Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC

CALM Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)

DAFWA Department of Agriculture and Food

DEC Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)

DoE Department of Environment

DoIR Department of Industry and Resources

DRF Declared Rare Flora

EPP Environmental Protection Policy
GIS Geographical Information System
ha Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC Threatened Ecological Community

WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)