



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	1422/2
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 2 June 2011 to 31 May 2021
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

### **PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED**

**1. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Petroleum Production Licence L1H

**2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purposes of petroleum drilling programme and associated works.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 33.27 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 1422/2.

**4. Type of Clearing Authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within six months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

**5. Method of Clearing Authorised**

When undertaking any vegetation clearing for laying of *pipelines* in accordance with this Permit, the Permit Holder shall only use the following methods:

- (i) walking over vegetation;
- (ii) driving an off-road vehicle or equipment over vegetation;
- (iii) cutting vegetation using appropriate equipment in areas of high and thick Spinifex where access on foot is not practicable;
- (iv) laying of pipelines on the surface of vegetation; and
- (v) where a pipeline crosses a road, excavating a maximum area of 10 metres by 10 metres immediately adjacent to each side of the road crossing, to facilitate the burial of the pipeline under the road.

**6. Avoid, minimise etc clearing**

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- (i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

**7. Application**

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

## **PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

### **8. Weed control**

The Permit Holder shall implement appropriate *weed* control measures to prevent the establishment of *weeds* within the areas cleared and adjacent areas.

### **Flora and Fauna Management**

9. The Permit Holder shall not clear the *Priority flora* species *Helichrysum oligochaetum*.
10. The Permit Holder shall, where practicable, avoid removal of or disturbance to any termite mounds.
11. The Permit Holder shall not clear areas designated by an *environmental specialist* or *environmental technician*, or designated on the *Environmental Sensitivity Mapping Database* of the *Chevron Barrow Island Geographic Information System*, as having an environmental sensitivity classification of *Priority 1* (as defined in this Permit), unless such clearing has been approved in writing by the *CEO*.
12. The Permit Holder shall where practicable avoid accessing by vehicle those areas designated by an *environmental specialist* or *environmental technician*, or designated on the *Environmental Sensitivity Mapping Database* of the *Chevron Barrow Island Geographic Information System*, as having an environmental sensitivity classification of *Priority 2* (as defined in this Permit).
13. Prior to commencement of vegetation clearing, all proposed clearing areas shall be surveyed by an *environmental specialist* or qualified *botanist*. The *environmental specialist*, *environmental technician* or *botanist* shall assess the results of surveys and ensure that, to the extent practicable, any proposed clearing areas:
  - (i) incorporate previously disturbed areas;
  - (ii) will be located so as to minimise the amount and impacts of clearing within the permitted area, in accordance with the requirements of the “*ASBU Barrow Island Vegetation Management Plan Version 2.0, 26 July 2006*”, (or a later revision of this document, approved by the *CEO*);
  - (iii) will not impact on *Priority Flora*; and
  - (iv) will not impact on areas designated by an *environmental specialist*, *environmental technician* or *botanist* or designated on the *Environmental Sensitivity Mapping Database* of the *Chevron Barrow Island Geographic Information System*, as having an environmental sensitivity classification of *Priority 2* (as defined in this Permit).
14. The permit holder shall implement the DMP approved “*Environmental Management Plan. Barrow Island Infill Drilling Program, April 2007*” (or later revision or replacement of this document, approved by DMP).

## **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

### **15. Records to be kept**

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (i) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
- (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
- (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.

## 16. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 30 September each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 15 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and the 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 31 May 2021, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 15 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 16(a) of this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

*CEO* means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation or an officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

*botanist* means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in identification and surveys of flora native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable botanist for the bioregion;

*environmental specialist* means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable environmental specialist;

*environmental technician* means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder and who has a capability, through specific training and access to on-site reference materials, to identify flora and fauna habitat of conservation significance on Barrow Island and assess environmental impacts of the Permit Holders activities.

*pipelines* means pipelines for the movement of oil, gas and water necessary for carrying out oilfield operations and operations incidental thereto and includes electrical cabling;

*priority flora* means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 in the *Department of Parks and Wildlife's Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

*weed/s* means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under the section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or  
(b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or  
(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

### **Priority areas (1 to 4) as described in the *Environmental Sensitivity Mapping Database of the Chevron Barrow Island Geographic Information System*:**

#### **Priority 1: Exclusion zone**

- Vegetation of restricted distribution containing floristic components of particular vulnerability and/or with high sensitivity to disturbance (e.g. coastal dunes);
- The designated buffer zone surrounding important habitat to protected fauna sensitive to disturbance;
- The designated buffer zone surrounding Aboriginal Heritage Sites, Anthropological and Fossil sites; and
- Landforms susceptible to degradation from indirect impacts of leaks/spills (e.g. caves, fissures).

#### **Priority 2: High impact**

- Vegetation of restricted distribution with lower sensitivity to disturbance, or where important floristic components are highly visible. Vegetation types containing components with particular importance to fauna and/or low ability to regenerate (e.g. Melaleuca).

#### **Priority 3: Moderate Impact**

- Widely distributed vegetation.



**Priority 4: Low Impact**

- Very widely distributed vegetation or widely distributed vegetation with high regeneration capacity.

**Designated buffer zones surrounding significant features:**

- Bettong warrens (polygon location) - 100m;
- Bettong warrens (point coordinate location) - 150m;
- Brahminy Kite nests - 50m;
- Sea-eagle nests - 70m;
- Osprey nests - 70m;
- Stygofauna in caves/sinkholes - 100m;
- Heritage Sites - 100m;
- Anthropological Sites - 100m;
- Fossil Sites - 100m;
- Caves/Fissures - 100m.



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Marnie Leybourne  
A/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20  
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

26 May 2016