



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1590/1  
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 251 ON PLAN 190202 ( PARKESTON 6434)  
 Local Government Area: City Of Kalgoorlie/Boulder  
 Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3.6		Mechanical Removal	Miscellaneous

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard Vegetation Association 468: Medium woodlands, salmon gums and Goldfields blackbutt	The area consists of 3.6ha within the Yarri Rd Refuse Disposal Site, directly west of current land fill operations. The vegetation within the proposed area is described as woodlands of Eucalyptus salmonophylla over Maireana.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The information on the vegetation description and condition was obtained from the Draft Environmental Plan for the Yarri Rd Refuse Site (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder 2006).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
 The area applied to be cleared does not comprise a high level of biodiversity. The area consists of a 3.6ha area of previously disturbed native vegetation within the Yarri Rd Refuse Site, directly west of current land fill operations. This site has been previously disturbed due to nearby land fill operations and water flows have been interrupted by the development of waste disposal cells and access ways; this has had an impact upon remaining vegetation. The vegetation overall is considered to be in degraded condition (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a).  
 Given the above, the areas do not support high levels of biodiversity and therefore the clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

**Methodology** City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a) (TRIM Ref: DOC8968)

### (b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
 The Goldfield Region consists of a diverse range of fauna. The most common fauna in this area are reptile, of which approximately 93 species are known to inhabit this Region. Birds are also common (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a).  
 It is unlikely that the area applied to be cleared provides habit for significant fauna as the area is located directly west of current land fill operations. Disturbances associated with this location include extensive weed invasion and rubbish from the nearby landfill site. The site is fully enclosed by a 2.4 metre chainmesh and barbwire fence, with only one entrance and exit gate, preventing fauna movement (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006b). Additionally the Yarri Rd Refuse Site is surrounded by well vegetated Crown Reserve, which is considered to

provide suitable habitat for fauna. There was no significant fauna recorded during Fauna Survey that was undertaken for the Yarri Road Refuse Site Environmental Management Plan (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder 2006).

Given the above, the area does not represent significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia and therefore the clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

**Methodology** City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a) (TRIM Ref: DOC8968)  
City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006b) (TRIM Ref: DOC13296)

**(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.**

**Comments** **Proposal may be at variance to this Principle**  
There are no known Declared Rare and Priority Flora recorded within 5km of the area.

There are several populations of *Eremophila praecox*, a Priority 1 species, within 15km of the area under application. Of these populations, three are located west and one is located south of the site. Two of these populations occur within the same vegetation association, therefore it is possible that this species may be located within the area under application.

**Methodology** GIS DataBase,  
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 01/04/05

**(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.**

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities recorded within 10km of the proposed clearing, the nearest being located approximately 140km south-east. Given the distance from this TEC the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Database:  
- Threatened Ecological Communities, CALM 12/04/05

**(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.**

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
The vegetation within the area under application has been mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 468. This vegetation association is described as a medium woodland; salmon gum and Goldfields Blackbutt, and is recognised as having an existing vegetation representation of 100% (Shepherd et al. 2001)

	Pre-European	Current extent	Remaining	Conservation**	% In
reserves/CALM	(ha)*	(ha)*	(%)*	status	managed land
IBRA Bioregions					
Kalgoorlie	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
City of Kalgoorlie Boulder	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Beard Vegetation Association 468	476,124	476,120	100.0	Least concern	0.2

\* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

\*\* (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002)

\*\*\* Within the Intensive Landuse Zone

On the basis that the Pre-European extent of the Beard Vegetation Association meets the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation, being 30% of that present pre-1750, this proposal is considered unlikely to be at variance to this Principle.

**Methodology** Shepherd et al. (2001)  
Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)  
EPA (2000)  
GIS Databases:  
- Pre-European Vegetation - DA 01/01.  
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00.  
- Shepherd et al. (2001)

**(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

There are no wetlands or watercourse within the area under application. The vegetation, therefore, is not growing in, or in association with an environment with a watercourse or wetland and the clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear - DOE 01/02/04  
- EPP, Areas - DEP 06/95  
- EPP, Lakes - DEP 28/07/03

**(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The area of vegetation under application is identified as containing soil type Mx43. These soils are associated with gently undulating valley plains and pediments, with some outcropping of basic rock. Chief soils are alkaline red earths with limestone or limestone nodules at shallow depth (DAWA, 2004). These soils are not prone to land degradation, and thus it is considered that the removal of 3ha of scattered native vegetation is unlikely to lead to appreciable land degradation on or off site.

The proposed clearing is therefore considered unlikely to be at variance to this principle. Additionally the purpose of the clearing is for land fill, therefore the intended land use is considered unlikely to cause erosion.

**Methodology** DAWA (2004) Soil-landscape mapping

**(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The area applied to be cleared is not located within or adjacent to a conservation area, with the two closest DEC managed reserves being the Kalgoorlie Arboretum and the Lakeside Timber Reserve, located 6.5 and 12km respectively from the area under application. Given the distance from these reserves and the degraded condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is considered not likely to be at variance to this principle

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- EPP, Areas - DEP 06/95  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters, CALM 1/07/05

**(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The area under application receives little rainfall (300mm per annum) and has a high evaporation rate (2800mm per annum). Therefore, excess surface water flow would only be likely during high rainfall events.

Given the area applied to be cleared comprises a relatively small area of degraded vegetation, it is considered unlikely that the clearing of vegetation will reduce the quality of surface or underground water.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01  
- Evaporation Isopleths - BOM 09/98

**(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

Given the size of the applied area (3ha), and its distance from major watercourses and drainage systems, it is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing would cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding. The proposed clearing is therefore not considered likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear - DOE 1/02/04

## Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

### Comments

No areas of aboriginal significance have been recorded within the area under application.

There are no other licences or works approvals are required under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

### Methodology

## 4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Miscellaneous	Mechanical Removal	3.6	<p>The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986. Following the assessment, the assessing officer deems that the clearing is not at variance to any of the Principles.</p> <p>Therefore the assessing officer recommends that this permit be granted.</p>

## 5. References

- DAWA (2004) Soil-landscape mapping, Department of Agriculture Western Australia, Date accessed 10/01/07.
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.
- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

## 6. 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)