



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 1660 / 1

File Number: DEC1619

Duration of Permit: From 11 March 2007 to 11 March 2009

### PERMIT HOLDER

Water Corporation

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 8278 ON PLAN 30778

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

1. Clearing of up to 0.64 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 1660/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Dieback and weed control

- (a) When undertaking any *clearing*, or other activity pursuant to this permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *dieback*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
  - (ii) avoid the movement of soil in wet conditions;
  - (iii) ensure that no dieback-affected road building materials, mulches or fill are brought into an area that is not affected by dieback; and
  - (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) When undertaking any *clearing*, or other activity pursuant to this permit the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
  - (ii) ensure that no *weed-affected road building materials, mulch, fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
  - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

#### 2. Offsets

- (a) Determination of offsets:
- (i) The permit holder must implement an offset in accordance with conditions 2(a) and 2(b) of this Permit with respect to that native vegetation.
  - (ii) In determining the offset to be implemented with respect to a particular area of native vegetation proposed to be cleared under this Permit, the permit holder must have regard to the offset principles contained in condition 2(b).
  - (iii) Once the permit holder has developed an offset proposal, the permit holder must provide that offset proposal to the CEO for the CEO's approval prior to undertaking any clearing to which the offset relates, and prior to implementing the offset.
  - (iv) Clearing may not commence until and unless the CEO has approved the offset proposal.
  - (v) The permit holder shall implement the offset proposal approved under condition 2(a)(iii).
  - (vi) Each offset proposal shall include a direct offset, timing for implementation of the offset proposal, and may additionally include contributing offsets.

(b) Offset principles

For the purpose of this Part, the offset principles are as follows:

- (i) direct offsets should directly counterbalance the loss of the native vegetation;
- (ii) contributing offsets should complement and enhance the direct offset;
- (iii) offsets are implemented only once all avenues to avoid, minimise, rectify or reduce environmental impacts have been exhausted;
- (iv) the environmental values, habitat, species, ecological community, physical area, ecosystem, landscape, and hydrology of the offset should be the same as, or better than, that of the area of native vegetation being offset;
- (v) a ratio greater than 1:2 should be applied to the size of the area of native vegetation that is offset to compensate for the risk that the offset may fail;
- (vi) offsets must entail a robust and consistent assessment process;
- (vii) in determining an appropriate offset, consideration should be given to ecosystem function, rarity and type of ecological community, vegetation condition, habitat quality and area of native vegetation cleared;
- (viii) the offset should either result in no net loss of native vegetation, or lead to a net gain in native vegetation and improve the condition of the natural environment;
- (ix) offsets must satisfy all statutory requirements;
- (x) offsets must be clearly defined, documented and audited;
- (xi) offsets must ensure a long-term (10-30 year) benefit; and
- (xii) an *environmental specialist* must be involved in the design, assessment and monitoring of offsets.

**3. Records must be kept**

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

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation undertaken pursuant to the Authorised Activity:
  - (i) The species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
  - (ii) The location where the clearing occurred, recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  - (iii) The date that the area was cleared; and
  - (iv) The size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to the offsets of areas pursuant to condition 2:
  - (i) The location of any area of offsets recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  - (ii) A description of the offset activities undertaken; and
  - (iii) The size of the offset area (in hectares).

**4. Reporting**

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO*, on or before 30 March of each year, a written report of records requested under condition 3 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

**5. Definitions**

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

*CEO* means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation;

*clearing* has the meaning given to it in section 51A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

*dieback* means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on *native vegetation*;

*environmental specialist* means a person who is engaged by the permit holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, 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;

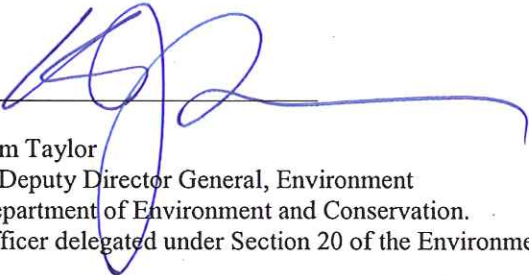
*fill* means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

*mulch* means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

*native vegetation* has the meaning given to it in sections 3 and 51A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and regulation 4 of the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*;

*road building materials* means rock, gravel, soil, stone, timber, boulders and water;

*weed* means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976.



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Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

9 February 2007