



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 174/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: AML70/246

Colloquial name: Paraburdoo 18 East and 11 West Waste Dumps

1.4. Application

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

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
Vegetation Association 181 - Shrublands, mulga and snakewood scrub	No Declared Rare or Priority Flora are known from the sites.	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	Desktop assessment of vegetation association based on Hamersley Iron's Flora Survey (Hamersley Iron 2003).

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**

No species of conservation significance were located and previous disturbance to the sites (Hamersley Iron, 2003) suggests that their biodiversity value is likely to be less than that of other areas within the region.

Methodology Hamersley Iron, 2003

(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 areas to be cleared are located within active mine areas. This, coupled with the obvious previous disturbance at the sites, suggests that the vegetation is unlikely to be significant habitat for fauna.

Methodology Aerial photograph

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

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

There are no known Declared Rare or Priority Flora at the sites proposed for clearing.

Methodology GIS Database: Declared Rare and Priority Flora Lists - CALM 13/08/03

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

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

There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities within the site.

Methodology GIS database: Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 15/7/03

(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 at variance to this Principle**

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is a component of Beard Vegetation Association 181, of which there is ~100% remaining (1,922,170ha), ~4% of which is protected in CALM managed lands (Shepherd et al. 2001).

Methodology GIS Database: Pre-European Extent - DA 01/01; 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 major watercourses or any wetlands in the areas to be cleared. Small, non-perennial drainage lines occur at both sites, however, as flow is dependent upon rainfall events, there is no riparian vegetation associated with these areas.

Methodology GIS Database: Hydrology, linear - DOE 1/2/04

(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**

It is unlikely that the clearing proposed will result in any significant land degradation.

Methodology

(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 at variance to this Principle**

There are no conservation reserves adjacent to the area proposed for clearing; the sites are within an active mining area.

Methodology GIS Database: CALM Managed Lands and Waters - 1/06/04

(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**

It is unlikely that the clearing of the vegetation as proposed will impact on the quality of surface or ground water.

Methodology

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

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

Flooding in the region is the result of often extreme climatic events. It is unlikely that the clearing of vegetation as proposed will influence flood occurrences.

Methodology

(k) Planning instrument or other matter.

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

The sites are within a State Agreement Act lease area.

Methodology GIS DAtabase: Mining Tenements - DOIR 1/09/03

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Mining	Mechanical Removal	60	Grant	53ha at 11 West pit + 7ha at 18 East pit

5. References

Hamersley Iron (2003) Paraburdoo 18 East Rare Flora Survey. DoE TRIM ref KNI446
Hamersley Iron (2003) Paraburdoo 11 West Rare Flora Survey. DoE TRIM ref KNI445
Keighery, BJ (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.