



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

<b>Purpose permit number:</b>	CPS 1960/1
<b>Permit holder:</b>	Water Corporation
<b>Purpose of clearing:</b>	Pipeline construction
<b>Shire:</b>	Shire of Dardanup and Shire of Harvey
<b>Duration of permit:</b>	26 July 2008 - 26 July 2013

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The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the above stated purposes, subject to the conditions of this Permit.

### **PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED**

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

LOT 4 ON DIAGRAM 71939  
 LOT 70 ON PLAN 16049  
 LOT 5536 ON PLAN 15906  
 LOT 301 ON PLAN 43338

#### **2. Area of clearing**

The Permit holder must not clear more than 0.58 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plans 1960/1a and 1960/1b.

#### **3. 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.

#### **4. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures**

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1 and 2 of this Permit, the Permit holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

### **PART II – ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

#### **5. Avoid, minimise etc clearing**

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purpose of pipeline construction the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

#### **6. 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 the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:
  - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area

- to be cleared;
  - (ii) ensure that no *dieback* and *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.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the *term* of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

## 7. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing within the yellow cross-hatched area on attached Plan 1960/1a and 1960/1b, the area shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify habitat suitable to be utilised by the fauna species listed below:
- (i) Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*)
  - (ii) Baudin's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*)
  - (iii) Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*)
- (b) Prior to clearing, any habitat identified by condition 7(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna.
- (c) Prior to clearing the Permit Holder shall ensure that any fauna identified by condition 7(b) shall be removed and relocated by a *fauna clearing person*, in accordance with a licence issued by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

## 8. Revegetation and rehabilitation

- (a) The Permit Holder shall retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing in accordance with this Permit.
- (b) Within six months of the area no longer being required for the purpose of pipeline construction, and prior to expiry of the permit, the permit holder must revegetate the area by:
- (i) Lay vegetative material and topsoil retained in accordance with condition 8(a) on the area.
  - (ii) Deliberately planting and/or seeding native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area; and
  - (iii) Ensuring only local provenance seeds and propagating material from within 10km of the area cleared are used to revegetate the area;

## 9. Offset

- (a) Determination of offsets:
- (i) If part or all of the clearing to be done is or may be at variance with one or more of the clearing principles, then the Permit Holder must implement an offset in accordance with conditions 9(a) and 9(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 9(b) of this Permit.
  - (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 9(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) For the purpose of this condition, 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 1:1 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.

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

#### **10. 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 this permit:
  - (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 Fauna Management pursuant to condition 7:
  - (i) the number and species of any habitat tree identified;
  - (ii) the species of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising habitat;
  - (iii) the species and number of each species relocated;
  - (iv) a description of the relocation activities; and
  - (v) the location and date where relocated fauna was released, using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994.
- (c) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 8:
  - (i) the location of any area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* in accordance with condition 8 recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  - (ii) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken pursuant to condition 8; and
  - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares) pursuant to condition 8.
- (d) In relation to the offsets of areas pursuant to condition 9:
  - (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).

## 11. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 10 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Before the expiry of the permit, the permit holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 where these records have not already been provided under condition 11 (a).

## Definitions

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

**condition** means the rating given to native vegetation using the *Keighery scale* and refers to the degree of change in the structure, density and species present in the particular vegetation in comparison to undisturbed vegetation of the same type;

**contributing offset/s** has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9: Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

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

**direct offset/s** has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9: Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

**ecological community** means a naturally occurring biological assemblage that occurs in a particular type of habitat (English and Blythe, 1997; 1999) – the scale at which ecological communities are defined will depend on the level of detail in the information source, therefore no particular scale is specified;

**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;

**fauna specialist** means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;

**fauna clearing person** means a person who has obtained a licence issued pursuant to the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and the *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970* (as amended) authorising them to take fauna;

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

**Keighery scale** means the vegetation condition scale described in *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community* (1994) as developed by B.J. Keighery and published by the Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia;

**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;


**rehabilitation** means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

**revegetation** means the re-establishment of a cover of *native vegetation* in an area such that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, and can involve regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting;

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

**term** means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed;

**weed/s** 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*

  
Sarah McEvoy  
**MANAGER**

**NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH**

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

26 June 2008