

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number:

2634/2

File Number:

A1254/200801

Duration of Permit:

From 24 January 2009 to 30 July 2014

PERMIT HOLDER

The Griffin Coal Mining Company Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Exploration Licence 70/102

Exploration Licence 70/231

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

1. Clearing for the purposes of Mineral Exploration.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 8 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area shaded pink on attached Plan 2634/2.

Guiding Principles

- 2. In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared pursuant to 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.

Dieback and weed control

- 3. When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under 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) shall not move soils in wet conditions;
 - (iii) ensure that no *dieback* or weed-affected soil, *road building materials*, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

Rehabilitation

- 4. The Permit Holder shall stockpile all topsoil and vegetation cleared under this permit for use in rehabilitation.
- 5. The Permit Holder must, within 6 months of the completion of exploration activities, rehabilitate all cleared areas by re-shaping the surface so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land, and respreading the topsoil and vegetative material stockpiled under condition 4 over each cleared area.

Fauna Management

6. The Permit Holder shall retain all hollow logs and stumps from vegetation cleared within the areas shown shaded pink on attached Plan 2634/2, for use in rehabilitation.

7. The Permit Holder must not clear any trees that have a Diameter at Breast Height of 900 millimetres or larger within the areas shown shaded pink on attached Plan 2634/2.

Watercourse Management

8. The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation for drill pads within any *watercourses* within the areas shaded pink on Plan 2634/2.

Record Keeping

- 9. The Permit Holder shall record the following for each instance of clearing:
 - (i) the location of where the clearing occurred, expressed as grid coordinates using the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 coordinate system;
 - (ii) the size of the area cleared in hectares;
 - (iii) the dates on which the area was cleared;
 - (iv) the purpose of clearing;
 - (v) the method of clearing; and
 - (vi) the area rehabilitated in hectares.

Reporting

10. The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 30 July each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 9 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.

DEFINITIONS

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

dieback means the effect of Phytophthora species on native vegetation

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;

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

watercourse has the same meaning as that defined under the Country and Water Supply Act 1947.

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.

Jan Briggs

A/DIRECTOR

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20

of the Environmental Protection Act 198

12 February 2009