



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2700/1
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: ATCO Power Australia (Karratha) Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 4547 ON PLAN 242018 (STOVE HILL 6714)
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Roebourne
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.3		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

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
Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; hard spinifex, <i>Triodia wiseana</i>	The application area is comprised of vegetation in varying condition, the majority in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (Astron, 2008).	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was assessed through a vegetation survey of the site (Astron, 2008) and aerial photography.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

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

Comments: see principle K

Methodology

(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: see principle K

Methodology

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

Comments: see principle K

Methodology

(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: see principle K

Methodology

(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

see principle K

Methodology

(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

see principle K

Methodology

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

Comments

see principle K

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

see principle K

Methodology

(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

see principle K

Methodology

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

Comments

see principle K

Methodology

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

Comments

The proposal to clear up to 0.3 hectares for the purpose of gaining site access to power station development at Lot 1996, is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. There are no declared rare flora species or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project. The vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area, and would not have a detrimental impact on fauna habitats.

There is no wetland-dependent vegetation within the area under application. Shallow drainage features and road drains were noted within the application area (Astron, 2008). Rainfall and evapotranspiration rates for the local area (40km radius) are both 300mm, suggesting that there is a low risk of water logging within the proposed clearing area.

Given the above, the small size of the application area and the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation the proposal is unlikely to be at variance with any of the principles.

The Water Corporation is the primary interest holder of Lot 4547 and has given approval for the applicant to clear native vegetation within this area.

Astron (2008)
Keighery (1994)
GIS Layer:

- Evapotranspiration Isopleths - WRC 29/09/98
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide DoW 13/07/06
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00.
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 02/08/05
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters (CALM July 2005)
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DOE May 2005)
- Dampier 2m Orthomosaic (DOLA 2000)

Methodology

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

5. References

Astron (2008). Karratha Power Station Flora and Vegetation Survey April 2008. Astron Environmental Services.
 Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, 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)

