



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2730/1

Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Woodside Energy Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 503 ON PLAN 55670 (GAP RIDGE 6714)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Roebourne

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
7.72		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

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
Mosaic: Short bunch grassland - savanna / grass plain (Pilbara) / Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex	Approximately 85% of the vegetation in good to degraded condition (SKM 2007). Weeds occur throughout the area under application, particularly Buffel Grass (SKM 2007).	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The description of vegetation under application was obtained from a survey report provided as supporting information by the proponent, prepared by SKM on 26 February 2007.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
 The proposal to clear up to 7.72 hectares for the purpose of constructing accommodation facilities is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. There are no declared rare flora species of threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project. The vegetation to be cleared is well represented, that is 99.9% vegetation representation remaining (Shepherd, 2007), in the local area, and would not have a detrimental impact on fauna.

There are no defined watercourses or wetland-dependent vegetation within the area under application. Limited wind and water erosion, predominately during construction stage may occur, though given the predominantly flat landscape and stoney soils, erosion will be minimal.

It is considered that the proposal is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.

Methodology Keighery (1994)
 Shepherd (2007)
 GIS Layers:
 - 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
 - Soils, Statewide DA 11/99
 - Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02
 - CALM Managed Lands and Waters (CALM July 2005)
 - Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DOE May 2005)
 - Dampier Legendre 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004

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

Comments

The applicant is the lessee of amalgamated Lot 500 and Lot 503 on Plan 55670, now named Lot 507 on Deposited Plan 61570 (DOC66495).

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 all the clearing Principles.

5. References

- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P. (2007). Adapted from: Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth. Includes subsequent updates for 2006 from Vegetation Extent dataset ANZWA1050000124.
- Sinclair Knight Merz (2007) Gap Ridge Accommodation Village - Area Permit Application Supporting Information. Prepared for Woodside Energy Ltd, Western Australia (TRIM ref: DOC17826)

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)

