



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 2745 / 1

File Number: A1476/200801

Duration of Permit: From 13 December 2008 to 31 July 2012

PERMIT HOLDER

Pioneer Nickel Limited

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Mining Lease 74/163

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

1. Clearing for the purposes of exploration drilling.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.935 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area shaded pink on attached Plan 2745/1.

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.

Flora Management

3. Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the site shall be inspected by a flora specialist for the presence of the following priority flora taxa:
 - (i) Common name *Guichenotia anota ms* (Latin name *Guichenotia anota ms*);

Where priority flora taxa are identified in relation to this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) All records of priority flora taxa are submitted to the CEO; and
- (ii) No clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified priority flora taxa, unless approved by the CEO.

Dieback and weed control

4. 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, *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

5. The Permit Holder shall stockpile all topsoil and vegetation cleared under this Permit for use in rehabilitation.

Record Keeping

6. 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; and
- (v) the method of clearing.

Reporting

7. The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Industry and Resources by 31 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 6 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.

Definitions

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

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;

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*.



Ian Briggs
A/DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND RESOURCES
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

13 November 2008