



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 2779 / 1

File Number: A1532/200801

Duration of Permit: From 7 February 2009 to 31 July 2014

PERMIT HOLDER

BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Iron Ore (Mount Newman) Agreement Act 1964,

Mineral Lease 244 SA (AML 70/244)

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 290 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 2779/1.

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:

- (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.

Weed Management

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*:
 - (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (b) ensure that no weed-affected *road building material, mulch, fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

Watercourse management

4. The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation for drill pads and sumps within 10 metres of Homestead Creek within the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 2779/1.

Flora Management

5. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing within the area cross-hatched yellow, the area shall be inspected by a flora specialist, in accordance with *EPA Guidance Statement No 51, Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia (2004)* for the presence of rare flora listed in the Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice (2008) and DEC Listed priority flora taxa:
 - (b) Where rare flora or priority flora taxa are identified in relation to condition 5(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) all records of rare flora and priority flora taxa are submitted to the Director, Environment Division;
 - (ii) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified rare flora, unless approved by the Director, Environment Division; and
 - (iii) no clearing occurs with 10 metres of identified priority flora taxa, unless approved by the Director, Environment Division.

6. Without prior written approval from the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum, the Permit Holder shall not clear within 10 metres of the following Map Grid Australia 1994 coordinates:

- (i) ZONE 50 - 780631 mE 7418856 mN
- (ii) ZONE 50 - 777617 mE 7420888 mN
- (iii) ZONE 50 - 777628 mE 7420950 mN

Rehabilitation

7. For each instance of clearing, the Permit Holder shall, within 6 months of the completion of the activity for which the area was cleared, rehabilitate all cleared areas by re-shaping the surface of each cleared area using the topsoil removed during the clearing, so that the shape of the surface of the rehabilitated area is consistent with the shape of the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land.

Record Keeping

8. 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

9. The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum 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 8 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:

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;

Priority Flora taxa means those plant taxa described as Priority Flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia*, Department of Environment and Conservation, as amended;

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

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 MINES AND PETROLEUM
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

8 January 2009