



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 2837 / 1
File Number: A1736/200801
Duration of Permit: From 4 April 2009 to 28 February 2014

PERMIT HOLDER

BHP Billiton Nickel West Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Mining Lease 53/489
Mining Lease 53/218
Mining Lease 53/166
Mining Lease 53/165
Mining Lease 53/56
Mining Lease 53/57

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

1. Clearing for the purposes of mineral production.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 118 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 2837/1.

Avoid, minimise etc clearing

2. In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under 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 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*:

- (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 soil, *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.

Retain vegetative material and topsoil

4. The Permit Holder shall retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.

Watercourse Management

5. The Permit Holder shall ensure that the natural direction and volume of water flow is not altered within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 2837/1.

Records to be kept

6. The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
- (b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
- (c) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

Reporting

7. The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 28 February 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 January and 31 December of the previous 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;

weed/s 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

5 March 2009