



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 2964/2  
File Number: A0193/200901  
Duration of Permit: From 18 July 2009 to 31 July 2014

### PERMIT HOLDER

BHP Billiton Yeelirrie Development Company Pty Ltd

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

*Uranium (Yeelirrie) Agreement Act 1978*

Temporary Reserve 70/6899, Mineral Claims: 36/2667, 36/2668, 36/2677, 36/2679, 36/2707, 36/2708, 36/2709, 36/2710, 36/2711, 36/2712, 36/2713, 36/2714, 36/2715, 36/2716, 36/2717, 36/2718, 36/2771, 36/3313, 36/3314, 36/3315, 36/3316, 36/3317, 36/3694, 53/1098, 53/1100, 53/1102, 53/1103, 53/1104, 53/1105, 53/1106, 53/1107, 53/1111, 53/1112, 53/1113, 53/1114, 53/1115, 53/1116, 53/1117, 53/1118, 53/1119, 53/1120, 53/1121, 53/1122, 53/1165, 53/1166, 53/1167, 53/1168, 53/1170, 53/1171, 53/1172, 53/1173, 53/1174, 53/1175, 53/1176, 53/1177, 53/1178, 53/1179, 53/1180, 53/1181, 53/1182, 53/1183, 53/1184, 53/1185, 53/1186, 53/1187, 53/1188, 53/1189, 53/1190, 53/1191, 53/1192, 53/1193, 53/1194, 53/1196, 53/1197, 53/3147, 53/3148, 53/3149, 53/3150, 53/3151, 53/3152, 53/3153, 53/3767, 53/3769, 53/3770, 53/3771, 53/3772, 53/3773, 53/3774, 53/3775, 53/3785, 53/3871, 53/3872, 53/3877, 53/3878, 53/3904, 53/3905, 53/3911, 53/3912, 53/3914, 53/3933, 53/3934, 53/3939, 53/3940, 53/3941, 53/3942, 53/3943, 53/4115, 53/4126, 53/4127, 53/4358, 53/4359, 53/4360, 53/4529, 53/4531, 53/4536, 53/4805, 53/5303, 53/5304, 53/5305, 53/5306, 53/5307, 53/5308, 53/5309, 53/5310, 53/5311, 53/5312, 53/5313, 53/5314, 53/5315, 53/5316, 53/5317, 53/5318, 53/5319, 53/5320

### PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

1. Clearing for the purpose of hydrological exploration, bore construction, geotechnical investigations, exploration drilling and associated works.

### CONDITIONS

#### Type of clearing authorised

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 10 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 2964/2.

#### 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:
  - (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.

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

### Flora management

4. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the site shall be inspected by a *botanist* for the presence of the following *priority flora taxa*:
- (i) *Bossiaea eremaea*;
  - (ii) *Eremophila arachnoides ssp. arachnoides*; and
  - (iii) *Olearia arida*
- (b) Where *priority flora taxa* are identified in relation to Condition 4(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
- (i) all records of *priority flora taxa* are submitted to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum; and
  - (ii) no clearing occurs within 5 metres of identified *priority flora taxa*, unless approved by the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum.
5. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the site shall be inspected by a *botanist* for the presence of the following *undescribed flora taxa*:
- (i) *Scaevola spinescens* terete leaf form (G Cockerton & C Ringrose 14560); and
  - (ii) *Acacia* sp. fragrant (G Cockerton & C Ringrose 14561)
- (b) Where *undescribed flora taxa* are identified in relation to Condition 5(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
- (i) all records of *undescribed flora taxa* are submitted to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum; and
  - (ii) no clearing occurs within 5 metres of identified *undescribed flora taxa*, unless approved by the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum.

### Fauna Management

6. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds.
- (b) Where *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds are identified in relation to Condition 6 (a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds.

### Retain and spread vegetative material and topsoil

7. The Permit Holder shall:
- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 2964/2;
  - (b) within 12 months following clearing, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
    - (i) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 7(a);

- (c) within 3 years of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with Condition 7(b) of this Permit:
  - (i) determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under Condition 7(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

#### Records to be kept

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

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
  - (i) 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;
  - (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
  - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
  - (iv) the purpose for which clearing was undertaken.
- (b) In relation to flora management pursuant to Conditions 4 and 5 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of each priority flora and undescribed species recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ii) the species name of each priority flora and undescribed flora identified; and
  - (iii) a copy of the *botanists* flora survey report.
- (c) In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 6 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of each *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mound recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
  - (ii) a copy of the *fauna specialist's* report.
- (d) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to Condition 7 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of any areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
  - (ii) a description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken;
  - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares).

#### Reporting

- 9. (a) 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 Conditions 4, 5, 6 and 8 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 31 July 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Conditions 4, 5, 6 and 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9 (a) of this Permit.

## Definitions

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

*botanist* means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

*direct seeding* means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

*environmental specialist* means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

*fauna specialist* means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;

*fill* means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

*local provenance* means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 100 kilometres of the area cleared;

*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;

*planting* means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

*priority flora taxa* means those plant taxa that are described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Department of Environment and Conservation's Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia (as amended);

*rehabilitate/ed/ion* means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

*revegetate/ed/ion* means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

*undescribed flora taxa* means any flora taxon (either at generic, species or infraspecies level) that has been discovered, but not yet formally described as per the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

*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*.



Phil Gorey  
DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

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

24 March 2011