

#### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 3027/1

Permit Holder: Regional Power Corporation trading as Horizon Power

**Duration of Permit:** 27 April 2009 – 27 April 2014

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

# PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

## 1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of installation of two high voltage feeder cables.

# 2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Harbour Road (Road Reserve, PIN 11124252).

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.402 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 3027/1.

# 4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

# 5. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 of this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

#### PART II - ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

#### 6. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

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.

#### 7. Dieback control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *dieback*:

(a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;

- (b) shall not move soils in wet conditions;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into an area that is not affected by *dieback*; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

# 8. Records must be kept

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).

# 9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 8 of this Permit and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 27 December 2013, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 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:

dieback means the effect of Phytophthora species on native vegetation;

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;

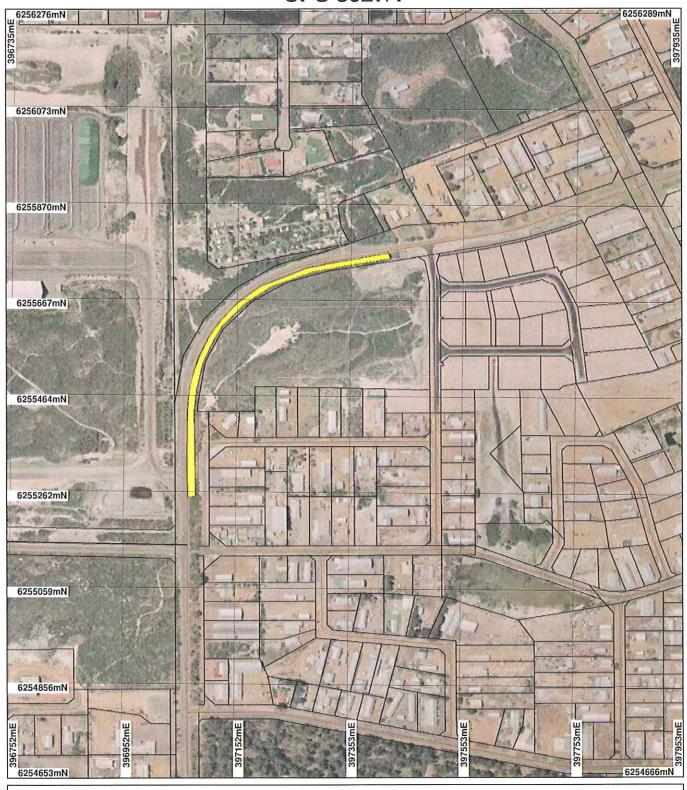
Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

26 March 2009

# CPS 3027/1





Clearing Instruments

Areas Applied to Clear
Areas Subject to Conditions
Areas Approved to Clear
Esperance 1.4m Orthomosaic Landgate 2002

Cadastre Road Centrelines

 $\leq_{\mathsf{N}}$ Scale 1:7127 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distriction of measurement inaccuracles. K Faulkner

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

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.





# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

## 1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3027/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Regional Power Corporation t/a Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property:

ROAD RESERVE (CHADWICK 6450)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire Of Esperance

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

**Method of Clearing** 

For the purpose of:

0.402

Mechanical Removal

**Building or Structure** 

#### 2. Site Information

# **Existing environment and information**

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Shrublands - Mallee and Acacia scrub on south coastal dunes

**Clearing Description** 

Vegetation is not described but consists of 0.402 hectares of road reserve

vegetation.

Vegetation Condition Very Good: Vegetation

structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery

#### Comment

Vegetation condition is unknown but has been inferred from aerial photography to be in 'Very Good' condition.

# 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

#### Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

The proposal to clear 0.402 hectares is for the purpose of installing two high voltage feeder cables. The vegetation within the clearing area is a linear strip of roadside vegetation, which from the aerial photography appears to be in Very Good condition (Keighery 1994).

There are a few threatened and priority fauna species recorded within a 10km radius, however many of these records are from wetland and/or marine habitats and would not relate to the habitat within the application area. The area under application is within a highly cleared landscape (70% within the local area, 10km radius) but is small (0.402ha) and linear. Therefore, it is not likely to be significant habitat for native fauna.

No rare flora species have been recorded within the local area (5 km) and though a few records of priority flora exist, the small area under application is unlikely to be an area that represents significant habitat for rare or priority flora. There are no Threatened Ecological Communities in a 10km radius.

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

#### Methodology

DOW (2009)

Keighery (1994)

GIS Layers:

- CALM Managed Lands & Waters CALM 01/06/05
- Clearing Regulations Environmentally Sensitive Areas 30 May 2005
- Groundwater Salinity, statewide DoW 13/07/06
- Hydrogeographic Catchments, Catchments DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrogeology, statewide DOW 13/07/06
- Hydrography, linear DOW 13/7/06
- Pre-European vegetation DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets 250209

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

#### Comments

The proposed clearing consists of 0.402 hectares for the purposes of installation of high voltage feeder cables.

Main Roads WA has provided a letter of approval for Horizon Power to conduct works on a Main Roads road reserve. Main Roads WA require Horizon Power to complete a 'Utility service providers and local government to undertake works within road reserves managed by Main Roads WA' form, which is required to be submitted with an issued DEC Clearing Permit. Horizon Power also gains authority via section 49(b) of the Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979.

Methodology

#### 4. Assessor's comments

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s510 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

#### 5. References

ANCA (1996) A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia, 2nd ed, Australian Nature Conservation Agency

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar (Iran), 2 February 1971. UN Treaty Series No. 14583. As amended by the Paris Protocol, 3 December 1982, and Regina Amendments, 28 May 1987.

DEC (2008) Memo re Standard Wetlands Advice for Native Vegetation Conservation Branch. Dated 17/07/2008. Species and Communities Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia.

Department of Environment and Conservation (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Esperance 2 (ESP2 - Recherche subregion).

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-). FloraBase — The Western Australian Flora. Department of Environment and Conservation. http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/ Accessed on Monday, 31 March 2008.

National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001–2005, (2001), Canberra.

Sac Bio Datasets (2007). Department of Environment and Conservation, Sac Bio Datasets, Kensington, Western Australia.

Shepherd (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 2007 from Vegetation Extent dataset ANZWA1050000124.

Templeman, D. (2008). Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2008. Wildlife Conservation Act 1950

Western Australian Herbarium (1994) Department of Environment and Conservation. Text used with permission (http://florabase.calm.wa.gov.au/help/copyright). Accessed on Tuesday, 29 May 2007

Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2008.

Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

# 6. Glossary

**EPP** 

Term Meaning Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC BCS Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS) CALM Department of Agriculture and Food **DAFWA** Department of Environment and Conservation DEC Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC) DEP Department of Environment DoE DolR Department of Industry and Resources DRF Declared Rare Flora **Environmental Protection Policy** 

Geographical Information System Hectare (10,000 square metres) Threatened Ecological Community Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC) GIS ha TEC WRC