

# CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 3399 / 1

File Number: A1849/200901

Duration of Permit: From 13 February 2010 to 13 February 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Karara Mining Limited

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

General Purpose Lease 59/38

#### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

 Clearing of up to 67 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3399/1.

# CONDITIONS

#### Avoid, minimise etc clearing

- 1. 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

- 2. 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;
  - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

### Fauna Management

- 3. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna* specialist who shall identify habitat/habitat tree(s) suitable to be utilised by fauna species listed below:
  - (i) Western Spiny-tailed Skink (Egernia stokesii badia)
  - (b) Prior to clearing, any habitat/habitat tree(s) identified by Condition 3(a) shall be inspected by a fauna specialist for the presence of fauna listed in condition 3(a).
  - (b) Prior to clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that any fauna identified by Condition 3(b) shall be removed and relocated by a *fauna clearing person*, in accordance with a licence issued by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

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#### Rehabilitation

- 4. (a) 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.
  - (b) Within twelve months of the area no longer being required for rail construction and associated infrastructure, the Permit Holder must *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3399/1 by:
    - (i) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 4(a) on the cleared area;
    - (ii) 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
    - (iii) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.
  - (c) Within forty-eight months of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with Condition 4(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder must:
    - (i) determine the species composition, structure and density of the area revegetated and rehabilitated;
    - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under Condition 4(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, the Permit Holder must undertake additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation in accordance with the requirements of Condition 4(b)(ii) and (iii) of this Permit.

### Records to be kept

- 5. 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:
    - the location of where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographic coordinates in Easting's and Northing's;
    - (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 the revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to Condition 4 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); and
    - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of revegetation and rehabilitation.

### Reporting

- 6. (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 13 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 5 of this Permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 January and 31 December of the previous calendar year.
  - (b) Prior to 13 February 2015, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 5 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 6(a) of this Permit.

#### **Definitions**

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

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 clearing person means a person who has obtained a licence from the Department of Environment and Conservation, issued pursuant to the Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970 authorising them to take fauna;

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;

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, at average adult human chest height, of greater than 70cm, healthy but with dead limbs and broken crowns that are likely to contain hollows and roosts suitable for native fauna, or where these are not present then healthy but with the potential to contain hollows and roosts;

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;

regenerate/ed/ion means revegetation that can be established from in situ seed banks contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing mulch;

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;

term means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed;

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 Agriculture 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

14 January 2010