



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 3445/4
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	14 February 2010 – 30 November 2025

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 purposes of railway construction and maintenance and associated works, installation and relocation of power lines, installation of fibre optic cables and construction and maintenance of water pipelines.

#### **2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Mineral Lease 244SA (Lot 16 on Plan 194288, Lot 17 on Plan 241430, Lot 19 on Plan 48921 and Lots 175, 176 and 201 on Plan 21923 and unallocated crown land, Newman and Lot 22 on Plan 220355 and Part Lot 29 on Plan 238020, Capricorn)  
Mining Tenement L52/109 (Part Lot 29 on Plan 238020, Capricorn) Jimplebar.

#### **3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 260.33 hectares of native vegetation within the combined areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 3445/4(a) and Plan 3445/4(b).

#### **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. Type of clearing authorised**

(a) This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the *Mining Act 1978* or any other written law.

(b) The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless commencing activities authorised under this Permit within one month of the clearing being undertaken.

#### **6. 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

### **7. 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.

### **8. Weed control**

- (a) 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.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

### **9. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation**

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 that has already been cleared.
- (b) within twelve months of the area no longer being required for the purposes of this permit the Permit Holder must *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3445/4(a) and Plan 3445/4(b) by:
  - (i) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 9(a) on the cleared area; and
  - (ii) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.
- (c) within twenty four months of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with condition 9(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder must:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to 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 9(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 9(b)(ii) of this Permit.

## PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

### **10. Records must be kept**

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 species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
  - (ii) 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 or decimal degrees;
  - (iii) the date that the area was cleared;
  - (iv) the date the excavation and operation of borrow pits ceased; and
  - (v) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
  
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 9 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 or decimal degrees;
  - (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*.

### **11. Reporting**

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 1 October of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 10 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 July and 30 June of the preceding year.
  
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 July to 30 June of the preceding financial year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year.
  
- (c) Prior to 30 August 2025, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(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 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, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist;

***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 and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion 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;

**regeneration** 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;

**weed/s** means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

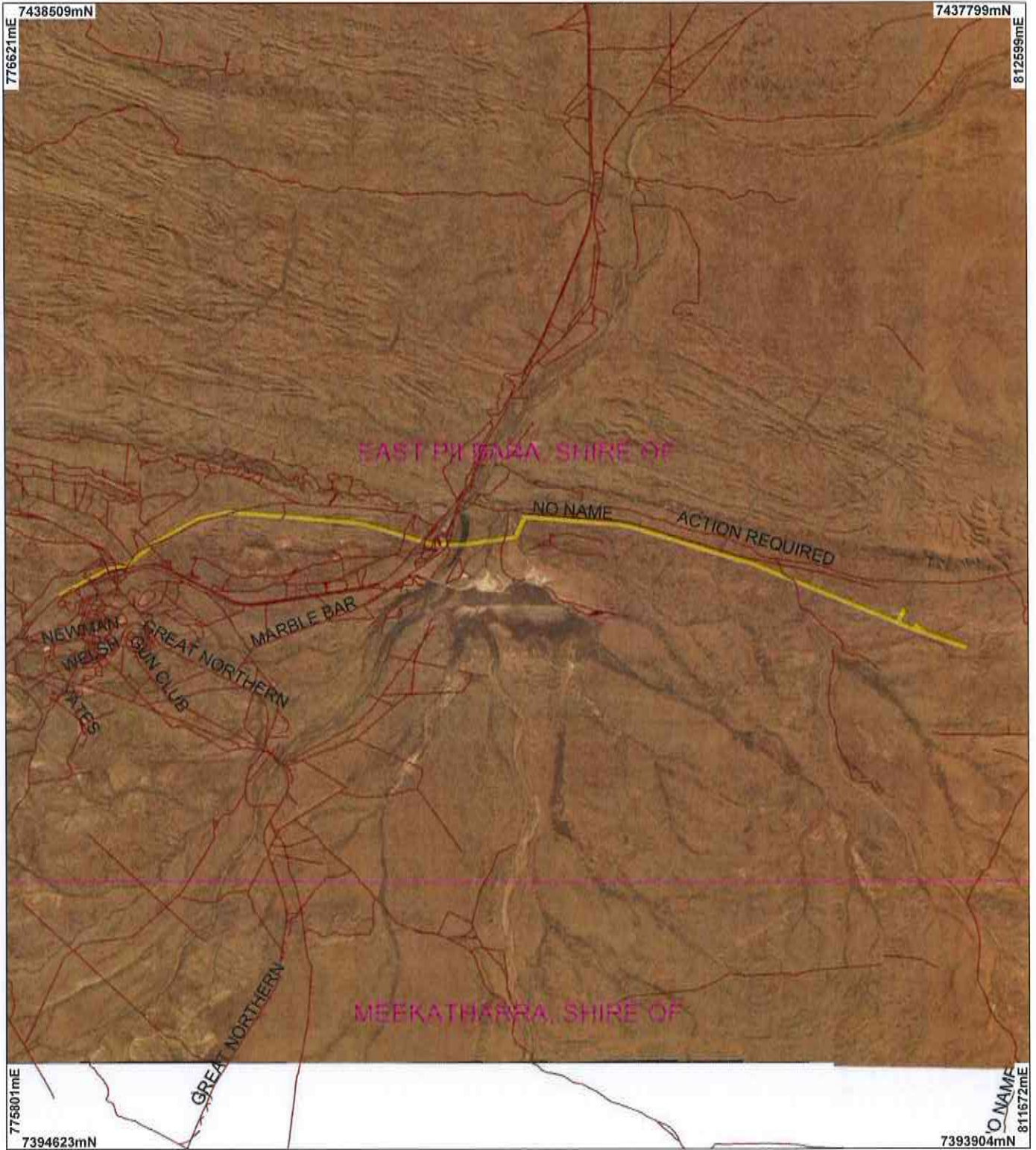


M Warnock  
SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

*Officer delegated under Section 20  
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

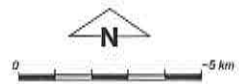
22 January 2015

# Plan 3445/4(a)



## LEGEND

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Clearing Instruments</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Cadastre                                    |
| Areas Approved to Clear     | <input type="checkbox"/> Murrumunda 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2011 |
| Road Centrelines            |  |



Scale 1:200000  
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

*M Warnock* Date 22.1.15

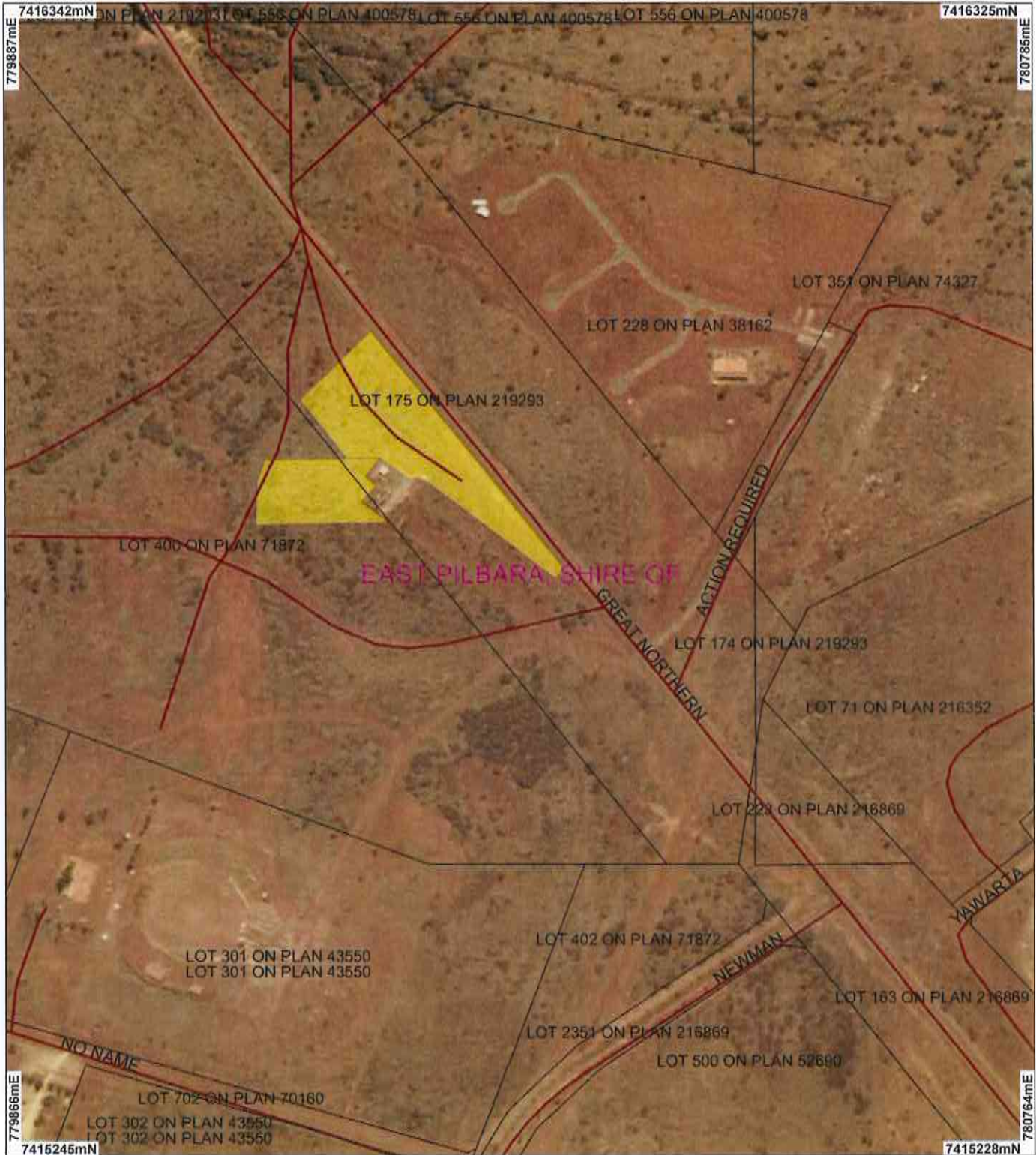
M Warnock  
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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



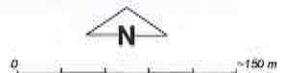
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Department of Environment Regulation  
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# Plan 3445/4(b)



## LEGEND

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Clearing Instruments</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Cadastre       |
| Areas Approved to Clear     | Newman 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2003 |
| Local Government            |   |



Scale 1:5000  
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

*M Warnock* Date 22.10.15  
M Warnock

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1988

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Department of Environment Regulation

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# Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia  
Department of Environment Regulation

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3445/4  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd (BHPBIO)

### 1.3. Property details

Property: UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 175 ON PLAN 219293 (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 17 ON PLAN 241430 (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 19 ON PLAN 48921 (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 176 ON PLAN 219293 (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 201 ON PLAN 219293 (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 16 ON PLAN 194288 (NEWMAN 6753)  
LOT 22 ON PLAN 220355 (CAPRICORN 6642)  
LOT 29 ON PLAN 238020 (CAPRICORN 6642)

Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
260.33		Mechanical Removal Mechanical Removal Mechanical Removal	Infrastructure Maintenance Building or Structure Water/gas/cable/pipeline/power installation

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 22 January 2015

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard Vegetation Associations;	Twenty one vegetation associations were characterised and mapped for the area (ENV Australia 2009) with vegetation condition ranging from Pristine to Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994)	Pristine: No obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The application is to amend Clearing Permit CPS 3445/3 to extend the duration and change the final reporting date of the permit.
82 - Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; Snappy gum over <i>Triodia wiseana</i> (Shepherd et al 2001).	Pristine to Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994) with most sites being in Excellent (Keighery 1994) condition.	To	Vegetation condition verified from flora and vegetation assessment conducted by ENV Australia (2009).
18 - Low woodland; mulga ( <i>Acacia aneura</i> ) (Shepherd et al 2001).		Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	
29 - Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups (Shepherd et al 2001).			
216 - Low woodland; mulga (with <i>Spinifex</i> ) on rises (Shepherd et al 2001).			

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

**Comments** Clearing Permit CPS 3445/3 has been amended to change the final reporting date and extend the permit duration to 30 November 2025.

The assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 3445/1.

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

**Comments** The Permit Holder has applied to change the final reporting date and extend the permit duration to 30 November 2025.

No submissions from the public have been received.

### 4. References

- ENV Australia (2009) Newman to Jimblebar Transmission Line and Newman Town Substation Flora and Vegetation Assessment. ENV Australia Pty Ltd, Perth, Western Australia. TRIM ref DOC106970.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- 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.