



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 3883/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 9 October 2010 to 9 October 2015

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 accommodation and associated facilities.

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

Lot 59 and 60 on Plan 209513 Robinson Drive, Koolyanobbing.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 11.57 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3883/1.

**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.



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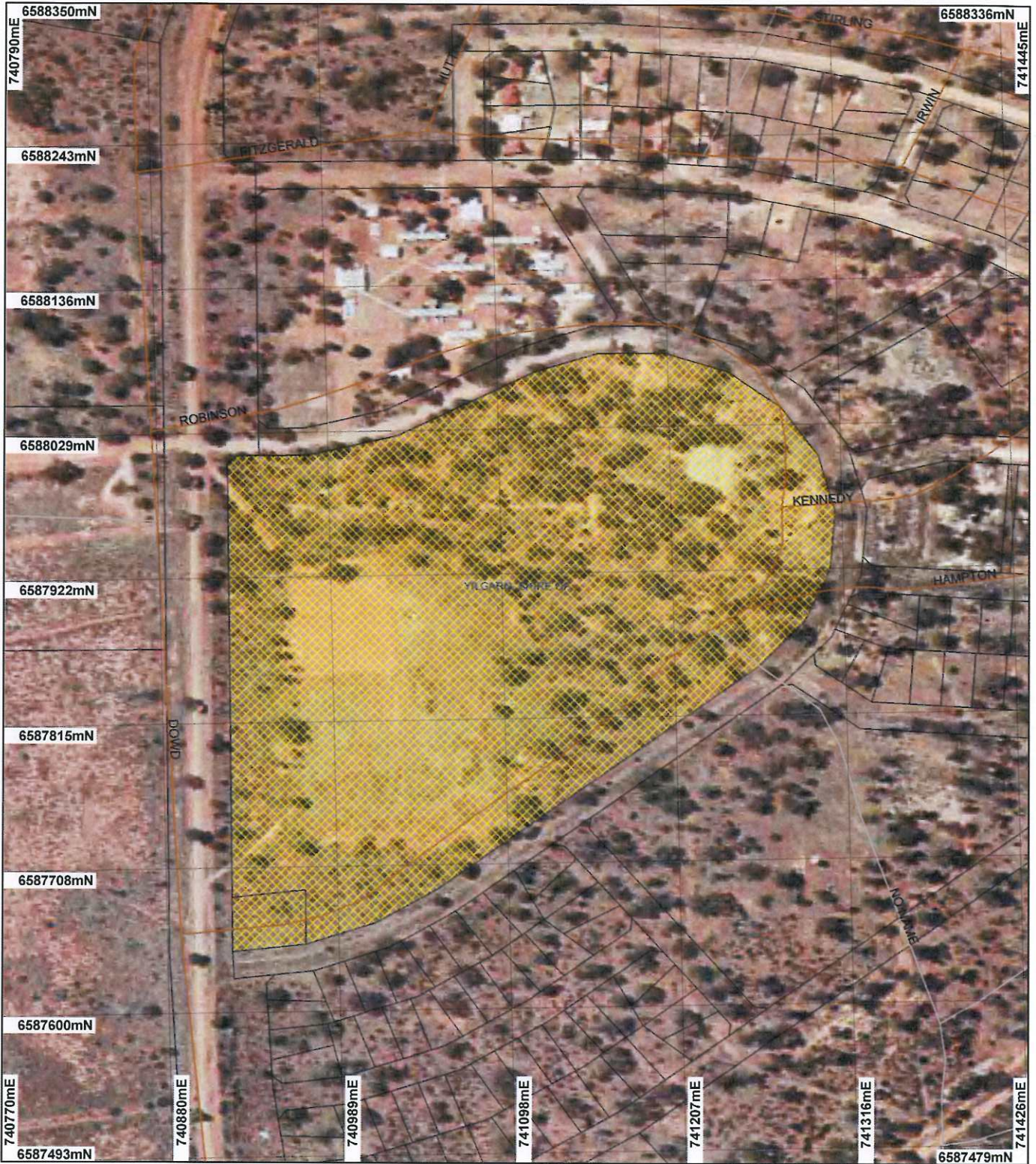
Kelly Faulkner  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

9 September 2010



# Plan 3883/1



## LEGEND

Local Government Authorities

Clearing Instruments

Areas Subject to Conditions  
Areas Approved to Clear

Cadastre

Seabrook 1:4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2001

Road Centrelines

FW (cont)

HY  
LRO  
LRS  
MR  
N  
TR



0 100 m

Scale 1:3808

(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.

*K Faulkner* Date 7/9/10

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 acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



Department of Environment and Conservation

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# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3883/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 59 ON PLAN 209513 (House No. 3 ROBINSON KOOLYANOBING 6427)  
LOT 60 ON PLAN 209513 (House No. 1 ROBINSON KOOLYANOBING 6427)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
11.57		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

## 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
The applied area is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 141 'Jackson' a medium woodland of York gum, salmon gum & gimlet (Hopkins et al 2001).	The applied area is 11.57 hectares for the purpose of mining camp accommodation and associated infrastructure. The vegetation has been identified as having areas of historic disturbance and some areas having being previously cleared (sports oval) with a range of weed species identified across the applied area (Western Botanical 2008).	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation description and condition was determined from aerial imagery (Bullfinch and Seabrook Orthomosaic - Landgate 2001) and photographs supplied with the application (Western Botanical 2008).
As above.	As above.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	As above.

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The proposal to clear up to 11.57 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing mining camp accommodation and associated facilities is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation is considered to range from 'good' to 'degraded' (Keighery 1994) condition (Western Botanical 2008).

There are many records of declared rare and priority flora species records within the local area (30 km radius) but most of these records are found growing in association with the banded ironstone formations that are outside of the applied area. There is not likely to be any impacts to any threatened or priority flora as no conservation significant taxa was recorded in the consultant's flora and vegetation survey (Western Botanical 2008). No threatened ecological communities (TEC) occur within the applied areas and the TECs that are mapped on the banded ironstone formations are not likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing within the applied area.

The local area contains numerous records of the priority four listed Tree-stem Trapdoor Spider (*Aganippe castellum*) but the known habitat for this taxon is not found within the applied area, furthermore, given the high local and bioregional extent of native vegetation remaining, the proposed clearing is not expected to have a

detrimental impact on fauna.

No mapped significant wetlands or rivers occur within the local area but two large salt lakes, Lake Seabrook and Lake Deborah, are present. However, the proposed clearing is not likely to have any impacts on these two lakes.

The soil type is mapped as shallow loams and the applied area appears to be of moderate relief. There may be some potential for wind erosion if the applied area is not managed appropriately post clearing. Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd has environmental operating procedures which should minimise and abate any potential or actual dust or erosion resulting from the proposed clearing.

The closest conservation area is over 10 kilometres away and is not likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

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

**Methodology**   References:  
Western Botanical (2008)  
Keighery (1994)

GIS Layers:  
- DEC Estate - DEC 2009  
- Groundwater Salinity, statewide - DoW 2006  
- Hydrogeographic Catchments, Catchments - DoW 2007  
- Hydrogeology, statewide - DOW 2006  
- Hydrography, linear DOW 2006  
- Pre-European vegetation - DA 2001  
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 2005  
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed Aug 2010  
- Aerial photos: Bullfinch and Seabrook -Landgate Skyview 2001

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

**Comments**  
No submissions from the public have been received.

#### **4. References**

- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- 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. (2009) 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.
- Western Botanical (2008). Flora and vegetation survey of applied area to support clearing permit application CPS 3883/1. Unpublished report to Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd.

#### **5. Glossary**

Term	Meaning
BCS	Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
DoE	Department of Environment
DoIR	Department of Industry and Resources
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
EPP	Environmental Protection Policy
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)