



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 3959/1
File Number: 2010/007010-1
Duration of Permit: 21 November 2010 to 21 November 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

COOLGARDIE-ESPERANCE HIGHWAY ROAD RESERVE (PIN: 11417574)

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

Clearing for the purpose of access for light pole replacement.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.013 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 3959/1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Faulkner", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

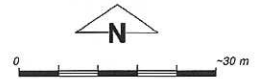
21 October 2010

Plan 3959/1



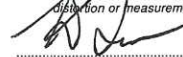
LEGEND

-  Cadastre
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Esperance Causeway 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
-  Road Centrelines



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

 Date 21/10/10

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.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3959/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (GIBSON 6448)
Local Government Area: Shire of Esperance
Colloquial name: COOLGARDIE-ESPERANCE HIGHWAY

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.013		Mechanical Removal	Infrastructure Maintenance

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 Association: 6048: Shrublands; banksia scrub-heath on sandplain in the Esperance Plains Region (Shepherd, 2009)	Up to 0.013 hectares of native vegetation is proposed to be cleared from within the Coolgardie-Esperance highway road reserve for the purpose of constructing an access track and turning circle in order to replace a light pole. The vegetation under application is likely to be exposed to disturbance as it is adjacent to the highway to the west and a firebreak track on the adjoining property to the east. The vegetation appears to be patchy in places and is considered to be in good (Keighery, 1994) condition.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined through aerial photography.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear up to 0.013 hectares (ha) of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing an access track and turning circle to enable the changing of a light pole within the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway, Gibson. The clearing is proposed to be approximately 16m in length, 3m in width and have a large turning circle at the eastern end.

The vegetation under application is part of a roadside vegetation corridor on the eastern side of the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway and is adjacent to a small tract of remnant vegetation on unallocated Crown land. The proposed clearing will dissect the remnant strip of roadside vegetation, however, this stretch of corridor vegetation is currently highly fragmented by driveways, as it is a relatively built up area.

The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 6048 (Shepherd, 2009). This vegetation association is found entirely within the Shire of Esperance and retains approximately 13% of its pre-European extent (Shepherd, 2009). Approximately 27% of the remaining extent of Beard 6048 is held in DEC managed lands (Shepherd, 2009).

The application area is in close proximity to several significant tracts of remnant vegetation of the same vegetation and soil type as the vegetation under application. This remnant vegetation is likely to provide similar habitat and be in less disturbed condition than the vegetation under application. The vegetation under application is not considered to be significant as a remnant in a highly cleared landscape.

There are no known records of rare flora in the local area (2.5km radius) and the proposed clearing is unlikely to threaten any priority flora species (DEC, 2010). The vegetation under application is unlikely to provide

significant habitat for indigenous fauna and is unlikely to hold significant biodiversity values on a local or regional scale.

The proposed clearing is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation, impact on water quality or exacerbate the intensity or frequency of flooding.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with the clearing Principles.

- Methodology** References:
- Keighery (1994)
 - Shepherd (2009)
- GIS Databases:
- ANCA, Wetlands - 26/03/99
 - DEC Managed Lands & Waters - DEC 28/10/09
 - Esperance Causeway 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
 - Evapotranspiration, Area Actual - BOM 30/09/01
 - 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
 - Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01
 - Pre-European vegetation - DA 01/01
 - RAMSAR, Wetlands - 15/10/09
 - SAC Biodatasets - 19/07/10
 - Soils, Statewide - 30/11/99
 - Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

Main Roads Western Australia has authorised the applicant to apply for a permit to clear native vegetation within the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway road reserve (DEC Ref: A331058).

There are no known Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area.

- Methodology** GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA 02/10
 - Cadastre - Landgate 12/09
 - Country Area Water Supply Act (Part IIA) Clearing Control Catchments - DoW 29/06/06
 - Environmental Impact Assessments - EPA 08/03/05
 - Native Title Claims - LA 2/5/07
 - Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - 07/02/06
 - RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DoW 13/07/06
 - RIWI Act, Irrigation Districts - DoW 13/07/06
 - Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 31/08/98

4. References

- 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.

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)