



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 4019/1
File Number: 2010/008286-1
Duration of Permit: 25 December 2010 to 25 December 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Regional Power Corporation T/A Horizon Power

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 37 on Deposited Plan 161313 (MOUNT HARDMAN 6765)
Lot 255 on Deposited Plan 220190 (MOUNT HARDMAN 6765)

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

Clearing for the purpose of surveying activities, power station construction and cable installation.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 8.502 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 4019/1.

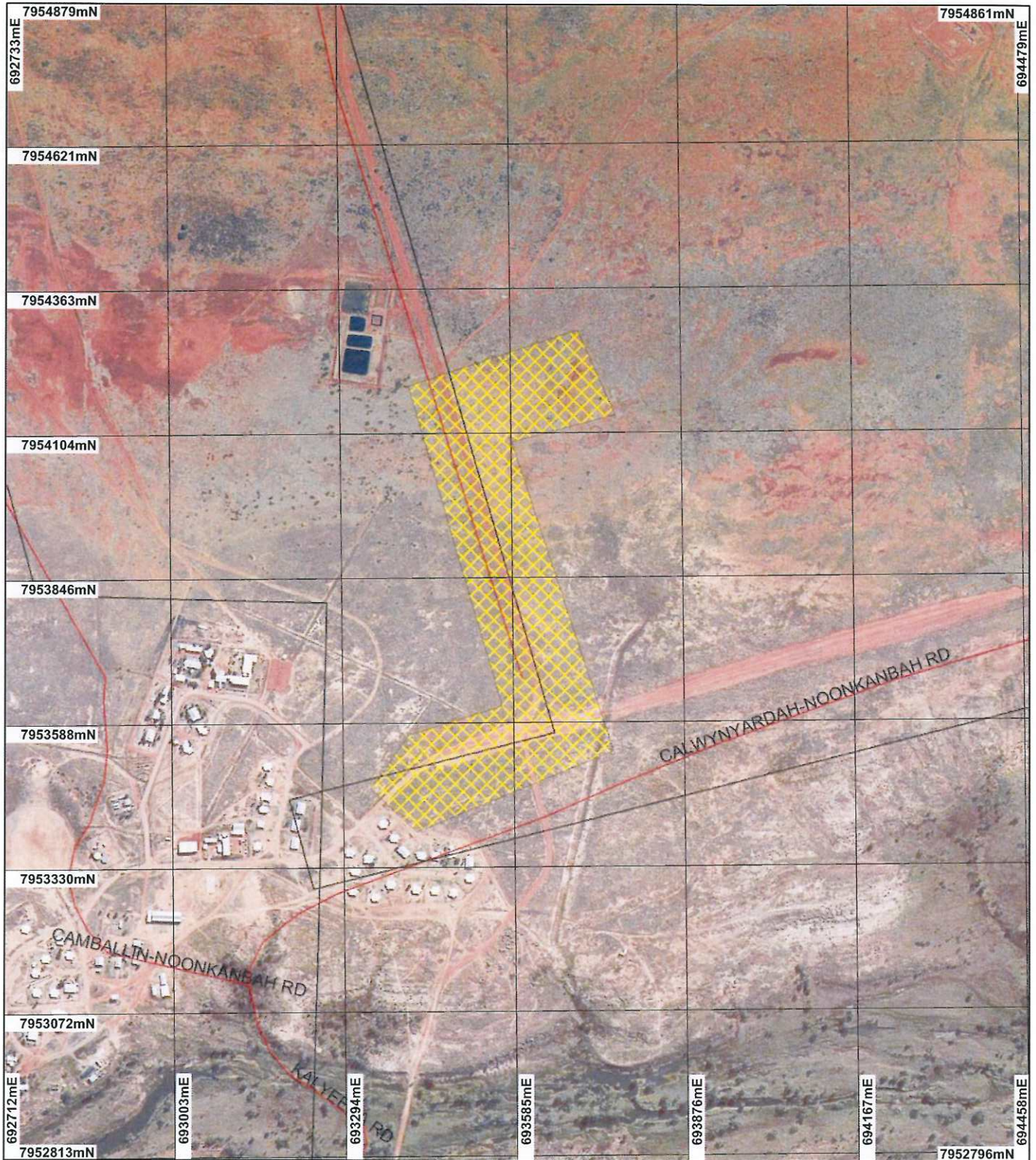
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

25 November 2010

Plan 4019/1



LEGEND

- Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear
 -  Road Centrelines
 -  Cadastre
 - Hardman 80cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Scale 1:9545

(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 *25/11/10*

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.



Department of Environment and Conservation

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4019/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 37 ON PLAN 161313 (MOUNT HARDMAN 6765)
LOT 255 ON PLAN 220190 (MOUNT HARDMAN 6765)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 25 November 2010

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 vegetation under application is mapped as being comprised of Beard vegetation association 707: Grasslands, tall bunch grass savanna sparse low tree; bauhinia & coolabah over ribbon/blue grass on black soil (Shepherd, 2009).	The proposed clearing of 8.502 ha is required for the purpose of an unexploded ordinance survey, geotechnical survey, construction of a hybrid diesel/solar power station and installation of network cable road reserve to connect power station to community infrastructure.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition and description of the vegetation was obtained via aerial imagery.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposed clearing of 8.502 ha is required for the purpose of an unexploded ordinance survey, geotechnical survey, construction of a hybrid diesel/solar power station and installation of a network cable within a road reserve to connect the power station to community infrastructure.

The vegetation under application is considered to be in degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition due to the close proximity of town site, cattle station and previous road works and infrastructure.

The local area (50km radius) has approximately 90-95% remaining vegetation and the mapped Beard vegetation type for the applied area has close to 100% of pre-European levels of vegetation remaining in both the bioregion and Shire (Shepherd, 2009).

There are no known records of rare flora within the local area and the closest priority flora species (*Triodia acutispicula*) was recorded 47.6km north of the application area, mapped as occurring on different soil and vegetation type to that of the applied area.

The 8.502 hectares of vegetation in a degraded (Keighery) condition is not considered significant habitat for fauna, nor is its clearing likely to lead to land degradation, impact on riparian vegetation or result in an increased incidence of flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.

- Methodology** Keighery (1994)
 Shepherd (2009)
 GIS database:
 - Hardman 80cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00
 - DEC Tenure
 - SAC Biodatsets (accessed Nov 2010)
 - Soils, Statewide DA 11/99
 - Pre European Vegetation (DA 2001)
 - Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas (2009)
 - NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001
 - Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06

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

Comments

The Department of Regional Development and Lands is the owner of Lot 37 on Plan 161313 (which is in order for dealings and soon to be Lot 501) and has no objection to the proposed clearing (DEC Ref: A338647).

There are several Aboriginal sites of significance mapped as occurring over the applied area. The applicant will be advised of their responsibilities under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. Lot 255 is owned by the Yungngora Association Inc and the applicant has supplied a copy of the ILUA between themselves and the Yungngora Aboriginal Corporation.

The Shire of Derby-West Kimberley has advised that they are not aware of any issues that would preclude the clearing to progress in order to provide essential infrastructure to the community (DEC Ref: A345092).

Methodology

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)