



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 4230 / 1  
File Number: 2011/001129-1  
Duration of Permit: From 09 May 2011 to 09 May 2016

### PERMIT HOLDER

Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

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 construction of pipeline/powerline corridor and associated infrastructure.

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

Licence number 00779-1973\_3\_60 located within the following properties:

PART LOT 99 ON PLAN 238653 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

ROAD RESERVE ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 32 ON PLAN 55948 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 46 ON PLAN 55948 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 110 ON PLAN 193697 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 113 ON PLAN 238653 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 47 ON PLAN 241809 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 51 ON PLAN 241992 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

LOT 106 ON PLAN 243222 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 24 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4230/1.

#### 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. Type of clearing authorised

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 in accordance with of the *Land Administration Act 1997 (WA)* or any other written law.

#### 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. Watercourse**

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing riparian vegetation.
- (b) Where a watercourse is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow of that watercourse by use of culverts.

## **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

### **9. Records must be kept**

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
- (b) 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;
- (c) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

### **10. Reporting**

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 3 September 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(a) of this Permit.

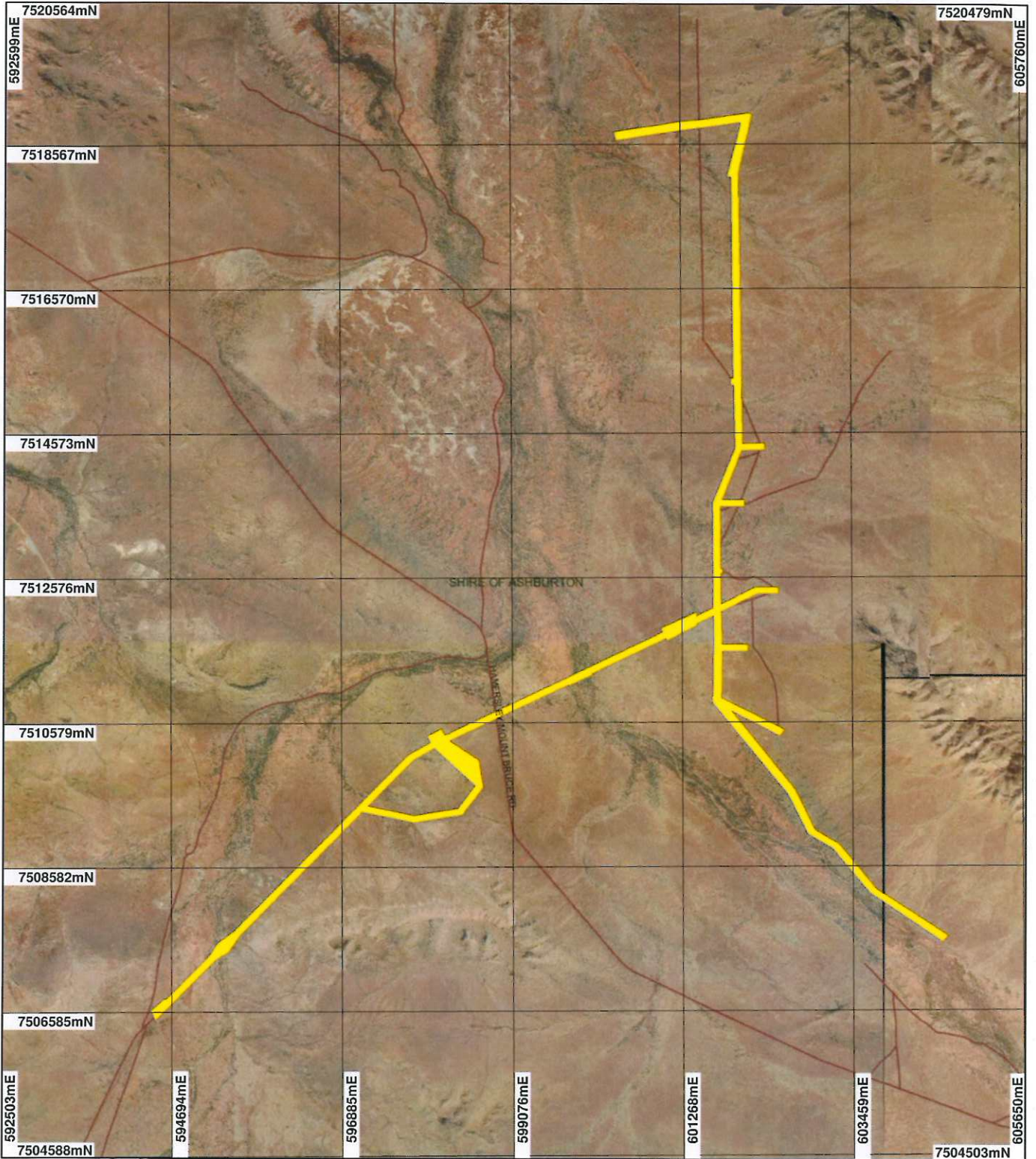


Matt Warnock  
ACTING MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

14 April 2011

# Plan 4230/1



## LEGEND

- |  |   |                              |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Mount Bruce 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004 | Mount Lionel 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004 | Local Government Authorities |
| Wittenoom 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004   | Road Centrelines                              |                              |
| Mcrae 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004       | Clearing Instruments                          |                              |
|  | Areas Approved to Clear                       |                              |



Scale 1:73063  
(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.

*Matt Warnock* Date *14/4/11*

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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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4230/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: PART LOT 99 ON PLAN 238653 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)  
ROAD RESERVE ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)  
LOT 32 ON PLAN 55948 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)  
LOT 46 ON PLAN 55948 ( MOUNT SHEILA 6751)  
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Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
24		Mechanical Removal	Water/gas/cable pipeline installation

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 14 April 2011

## 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 Hamersley 29 - Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups	Vegetation is in good condition. The main disturbances were grazing, tracks and 10-20% of the area had been impacted by fire.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation description and condition based on Biota Environmental Sciences and Rio Tinto's assessment (2011) and Rio Tinto's botanical survey (2009).
Beard vegetation association Hamersley 18 - Low woodland; mulga (Acacia aneura)	As above	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	As above
Beard vegetation association Hamersley 82 - Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over Triodia wiseana	As above	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	As above

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application is to clear 24ha within an envelope of 318.7 ha. The vegetation condition is considered to be in good (Keighery 1994) condition with disturbances from grazing, fire and tracks (Biota Environmental Science and Rio Tinto 2011). The vegetation communities within the applied area are well represented with ~100% remaining. There are no threaten ecological communities or priority ecological community with in the applied

area, or close enough to be affected by the clearing. The fauna habitat is well represented outside of the applied area and therefore the clearing is unlikely to impact on the conservation status of fauna within the local area (Biota Environmental Science and Rio Tinto 2011).

Four priority species, but no declared rare flora, was found within the applied area. The priority species include:

*Rhagodia* sp. Hamersley (P3)  
*Rostellularia adscendens* var. *latifolia* (P1)  
*Goodenia lyrata* (P1)  
*Calotis latiuscula* (P3)

These priority species are not restricted to the local area and therefore the clearing of the area under application is unlikely to change their conservation status.

The A- Class Karijini National Park surrounds the north, east and southern part the lease and is 200m east at its closest point. It is unlikely that the clearing will impact on the park.

Minor non-perennial watercourses intersect the applied area and therefore may be at variance to principle (f) and (i)

**Methodology** Keighery (1994)  
Shepherd (2009)  
Biota Environmental Science and Rio Tinto (2011)  
GIS Databases  
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 30 March 11  
- Pre European Vegetation  
- Mount Lionel 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004  
- McRae 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004

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

##### Comments

Hamersley Iron have provided a copy of their section 91 licence to occupy Crown Land.

Ministerial Statement No 833 (7 July 2010) approves Hamersley Iron's below water table operations.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) sent a direct interest letter native title claimants and representative bodies (DEC Ref A383945). No response has been received.

**Methodology** Ministerial Statement No 833 (7 July 2010)  
Section 91 licence Land Administration Act 1997, LIC 00799-1973\_2\_84

## 4. References

- Biota Environmental Science and Rio Tinto (2011) Statement addressing the 10 clearing principles for the installation of a pipeline from the Marandoo Mine to the Souther Borefield (AR-08-03684 A, B, C, D & E).
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Rio Tinto (2009) Botanical Survey for the Construction and Installation of the Marandoo Pipeline.
- 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. Includes subsequent updates for 2006 from Vegetation Extent dataset ANZWA1050000124.

## 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  
WRC

Threatened Ecological Community  
Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)