



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 4523/1

File Number: A1336/201101

Duration of Permit: From 29 October 2011 to 29 October 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Metals X Limited

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Miscellaneous Licence 69/12

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

1. Clearing for the purpose of groundwater exploration and associated works.

CONDITIONS

Type of clearing authorised

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 20 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 4523/1.

Avoid, minimise etc clearing

2. 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:
 - (i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
 - (ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
 - (iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

Weed control

3. 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.

Flora management

4. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist*, in accordance with *Guidance Statement No. 51* to inspect that area for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2010(2)* and *priority flora*.
 - (b) Where rare flora or *priority flora* are identified in relation to Condition 4(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified rare flora, unless approved by the *CEO*; and
 - (ii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs and no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, unless approved by the *CEO*.

Fauna management

5. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of:

- (i) *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby) burrows;
- (ii) *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows;
- (iii) *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) burrows; and
- (iv) *Egernia kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows.

(b) Where *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby), *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara), *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) or *Egernia kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows are identified in relation to Condition 5(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby), *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara), *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Mulgara) or *Egernia kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows, unless approved by the CEO.

Records to be kept

6. (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (i) 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;
- (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
- (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.

(b) In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 4 of this Permit:

- (i) the location of each rare and *priority flora* species, 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) the species name of each rare and *priority flora* species identified; and
- (iii) a copy of the *botanist's* survey report.

(c) In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 5 of this Permit:

- (i) the location of each habitat identified 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) the species name of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising the habitat; and
- (iii) a copy of the *fauna specialist's* report.

Reporting

7. (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Executive Director, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 31 July each year for the life of this Permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this Permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 6 of this Permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.

(b) Prior to 29 October 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the Executive Director, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 6 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 7(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

botanist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer, Department of Environment and Conservation (Western Australia);

fauna specialist means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australia fauna;

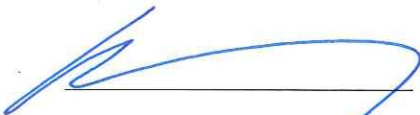
fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

Guidance Statement No. 51 means the Environmental Protection Authority Guidance Statement No. 51, Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia (2004);

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;

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Department's Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

weeds means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.



Phil Gorey
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

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

6 October 2011