



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	4523/2
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 29 October 2011 to 29 October 2021
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Metals X Limited

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

### PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

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

Miscellaneous Licence 69/12

**2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purpose of groundwater exploration and associated works.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 20 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 4523/2.

**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.

### PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

**5. Flora Management**

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist*, to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the area(s) proposed to be cleared, for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*, in accordance with *Guidance Statement No. 51*.
- (b) Where rare flora or *priority flora* are identified in relation to Condition 5(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) no clearing within 50 metres of the identified rare flora occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*;
  - (ii) no clearing of the identified *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
  - (iii) no clearing within 50 metres of the identified *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 6. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) 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) *Liopholis kintorei* (formerly *Egernia kintorei*) (Great Desert Skink) burrows.
- (b) Where *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby), *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara), *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) or *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows are identified in relation to Condition 6(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* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) or *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows, unless first approved by the CEO.

## 7. Weed control

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.

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

### 8. Records to be kept

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

- (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 5 of this Permit:
- (i) the location of each rare or *priority flora*, either as the location of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the aerial extent of the population and an estimate of the number of plants, 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 or *priority flora* identified; and
  - (iii) a copy of the *botanist's* survey report.
- (c) In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 6 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.

## 9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, 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 8 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 2021, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(a) of this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

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

*botanist* means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in identification and surveys of flora native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable botanist for the bioregion;

*CEO* means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

*fauna specialist* means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion;

*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 of Parks and Wildlife's Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

*targeted flora survey* means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of flora and vegetation of the Permit Area, focusing on habitat suitable for flora species that are being targeted and carried out during the optimal time to identify those species. Where target flora are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context;

*weed/s* means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or  
(b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or  
(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



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**Marnie Leybourne** | Director Operations  
Operations, Environment  
27 October 2016

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