



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 4592/1
Permit Holder:	Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power
Duration of Permit:	From 07 November 2011 to 07 November 2016

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 power station construction

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 601 on Deposited Plan 70566 (Boodarie 6722)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 19.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 4592/1.

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 under the *Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979* 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. 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.

Definitions

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

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

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;

weed/s 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*.



Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH








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

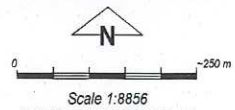
13 October 2011

Plan 4592/1



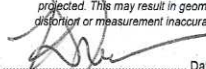
LEGEND

-  Road Centrelines
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Applied to Clear
-  Areas Subject to Conditions
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Cadastre for labelling
-  Port Hedland 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

 Date 13/10/11

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.



Department of Environment and Conservation

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4592/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 601 ON PLAN 70566 (BOODARIE 6722)
Local Government Area: Town of Port Hedland
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 13 October 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
The area under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 589 which is described as Mosaic: Short bunch grassland - savanna / grass plain (Pilbara) / Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex (Shepherd, 2009)	This application proposes to clear 19.5 ha of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a combined cycle dual fuel power station.	Very Good To Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	The description and condition of the vegetation under application was determined via the use of aerial imagery, supporting information supplied by the applicant (Strategen environmental consultants, 2011) and a flora and fauna survey conducted by GHD (2009).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

This application proposes to clear 19.5 ha of native vegetation within Lot 601 on Plan 70566, Boodarie, for the purpose of construction of a Combined Cycle Dual Fuel Power Station.

Lot 601 on Plan 70566 has previously been assessed in May 2011 for CPS 4049/2, approved to clear 2.35 ha of native vegetation for the purpose of geotechnical investigations, access tracks and constructing fences.

The assessment of the clearing principles have not changed, the findings from the previous assessment are still relevant and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 4049/2.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Rainfall, Mean Annual

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

Comments

The Town of Port Hedland has advised it does not have any objections to the proposed clearing; however they expressed concern regarding existing Babcock and Brown power plant on the adjoining property that it may be affected by dust produced during the clearing of native vegetation. The applicant has confirmed dust management strategies are currently being developed and confirmed they can liaise with the Town of Port Hedland if they have further concerns regarding dust management.

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has made a decision not to subject this proposal to the environmental impact assessment process and the subsequent setting of formal conditions by the Minister for

Environment under Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act). This decision was open to appeal until the 3rd of October, The EPA has confirmed no appeals were received and have determined that the proposal should be treated as Not Assessed – Public Advice Given. The EPA provided the following advice

- a) A clearing application will be required for all proposed clearing of native vegetation.
- b) A works approval will also be required from the DEC for the proposed development.
- c) Diesel usage should be limited to approximately 200 hours/year and NO₂ emissions should be limited, guidance should be sought from an air quality specialist as to whether the formation of additional ozone may cause NEPM standards to be exceeded and dust from construction should be managed effectively.
- d) No untreated or potentially contaminated waste water should be allowed to enter surface water systems, the integrity of natural drainage systems should be maintained and indigenous vegetation should not be adversely impacted by alterations to surface water drainage. Drainage and contaminated water should be managed to ensure that the recommendations of the EPA are achieved, including under flood conditions.

The applicant has submitted a works approval application W5048.

Methodology Reference:
 Environmental Protection Authority (2011)
 Town of Port Hedland (2011)

4. References

- Environmental Protection Authority (2011) Recommended Level of Assessment for Horizon Power's South Hedland Power Station. (DEC Ref: A433745)
- Environmental Protection Authority (2011) Public Advice under Section 39A(7). (DEC Ref: A439861)
- 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.
- Town of Port Hedland (2011) Comments regarding clearing application CPS 4592/1. (DEC Ref: A436130)

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)