

### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

**Purpose Permit number:** 4795/2

**Duration of Permit:** From 28 April 2012 to 31 December 2020

**Permit Holder:** Western Areas 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

Mining Lease 77/98 Mining Lease 77/329

## 2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of mineral exploration.

## 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 5 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 4795/2.

# 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. Dieback and 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* and *dieback*:

- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) shall only move soils in dry conditions;
- (iii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

#### 6. Flora management

Where *Eutaxia acanthoclada* have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO*, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) no clearing of identified Eutaxia acanthoclada occurs, unless first approved by the CEO; and
- (ii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified Eutaxia acanthoclada, unless first approved by the CEO.

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#### 7. Fauna management (Malleefowl)

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds.
- (b) Where *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds are identified in relation to Condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 8. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify habitat/*habitat trees* suitable to be utilised by fauna species listed below:
  - (i) Carnaby's Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris); and
  - (ii) Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii).
- (b) The Permit Holder shall not clear *habitat trees* identified under Condition 8(a) unless first approved by the *CEO*.

#### PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

### 9. 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 fauna management pursuant to Condition 7 of this Permit, the location of each *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mound 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.
- (c) In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 8 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of each habitat/habitat tree 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 of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising, the habitat/habitat trees; and
  - (iii) a copy of the fauna specialist's report.

## 10. 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 9 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 31 December 2020, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum 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.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

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

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;

dieback means the effect of Phytophthora species on native vegetation;

dry conditions means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

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;

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater, that contains or has the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna;

*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 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 03 November 2016

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