

# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	4849/1
Duration of Permit:	From 21 April 2012 to 21 April 2014
Permit Holder:	Mulga Downs Iron Ore Pty Ltd

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 Exploration Licence 47/1315 Exploration Licence 47/2221
- 2. Purpose for which clearing may be done Clearing for the purpose of mineral exploration and associated activities.

# 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.76 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 4849/1.

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. 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

### 6. 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:

- (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.

#### 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.
- 8. Flora management
  - (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to inspect that area for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*;
  - (b) Where rare flora or *priority flora* are identified in relation to Condition 8(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;
    - (ii) no clearing of identified rare flora occurs unless approved under section 23F(2) of the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950;
    - (iii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs, unless approved by the CEO; and
    - (iv) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified priority flora, unless 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 flora management pursuant to Condition 8 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of each rare and/or *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/or priority flora species identified; and
  - (iii) a copy of the botanists survey report.

#### 10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Executive Director, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 31 March 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 January and 31 December of the previous calendar year.
- (b) Prior to 21 April 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the Executive Director, 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:

*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 of the Department of Environment and Conservation or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

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;

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);

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*.

*Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* means those plant taxa gazetted as rare flora pursuant to section 23F(2) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (as amended).

Kim Anderson A/Executive Director Environment Department of mines and petroleum

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

29 March 2012