

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 4863/2

Permit Holder:

Robe River Mining Company Pty Ltd

Duration of Permit:

23 April 2012 - 23 April 2017

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 underground powerline installation.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (PIN 11261384 and 11261386)

LOT 706 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 707 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 708 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 750 ON PLAN 219430 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 771 ON PLAN 35754 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 772 ON PLAN 35754 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 796 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 797 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 798 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 799 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

LOT 392 ON PLAN 217328 (WICKHAM 6720)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.6 hectare of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 4863/2.

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.

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 *Land Administration Act 1997* 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. 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:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

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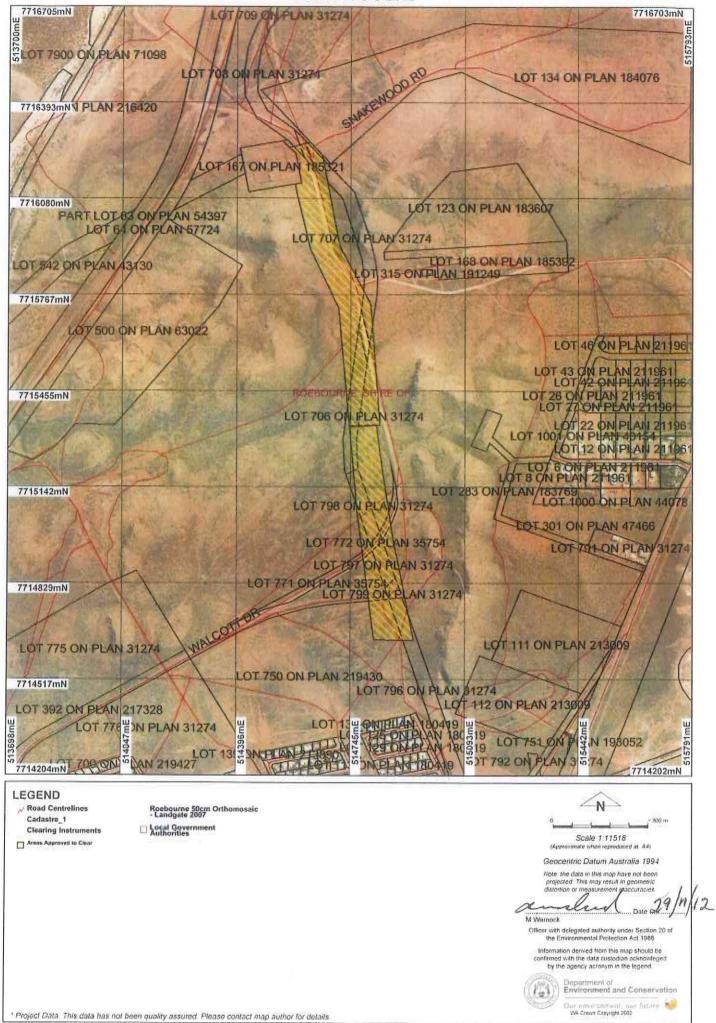
M Warnock A/MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

29 November 2012

Plan 4863/2









Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

4863/2

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Robe River Mining Company Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 750 ON PLAN 219430 (WICKHAM 6720)
LOT 392 ON PLAN 217328 (WICKHAM 6720)
LOT 750 ON PLAN 219430 (WICKHAM 6720)
LOT 796 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)
UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (WICKHAM 6720)
LOT 797 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)
LOT 799 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)
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LOT 707 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)
LOT 708 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)
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LOT 708 ON PLAN 31274 (WICKHAM 6720)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire of Roebourne

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal For the purpose of: Water/gas/cable/pipeline/power installation

101 AS 1948 U B

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

n: Gran

Decision Date:

1.6

29 November 2012

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Mapped Beard vegetation association 157: Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; hard spinifex, Triodia wiseana (Shepherd 2009).

Clearing Description

The application is to clear 1.6 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of installing an underground power line.

The vegetation under application consists of three vegetation types, with the condition ranging from good to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (RioTinto, 2011). The application area has been subjected to historical disturbances from tracks and associated activities.

Vegetation Condition

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The condition of the vegetation was obtained from a site inspection of the area under application by Rio Tinto in December 2011.

To

Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

This amendment has been made to clear an additional 0.6 hectares of native vegetation within unallocated Crown land, Lots 707 and 708 on Plan 31274 and Lot 392 on Plan 217328 for the purpose of underground power installation.

A review of current environmental information reveals no new additional information. Given this, the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in Decision Report CPS 4863/1.

Methodology

GIS DATABASE

-SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed November 2012)

Hydrography Linear
 Soils State wide

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

Comments

The Shire of Roebourne (2012) advises that they have no objections to the additional clearing.

The additional area under applications falls within the native title boundaries registered to the Ngarluma People. Information on the application was sent to the Ngarluma People and their representing organisation. To date no response has been received.

Methodology

References

Shire of Roebourne (2012)

4. References

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Rio Tinto (2011) Additional information within Clearing Permit Application CPS 4863/1 Robe River Mining Company Pty Ltd (DEC Ref:A476829)

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.

Shire of Roebourne (2012) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Amendment CPS 4863/2 (DEC Ref: A565245)

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)