



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 4940 / 1
Permit Holder:	Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power
Duration of Permit:	25 May 2012 to 25 May 2017

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

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of installing underground fibre optic cables.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 5275 ON PLAN 184651 (Lot No. 5275 WHIM CREEK BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 5549 ON PLAN 216397 (Lot No. 5549 WHIM CREEK BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 2514 ON PLAN 213177 (Lot No. 2514 HARWELL WEDGEFIELD 6721)
LOT 47 ON PLAN 241374 (BOODARIE 6722)
UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (BOODARIE 6722)
ROAD RESERVE (WEDGEFIELD 6721)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.6 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4940/1.

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 the *project activities* described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those *project activities* under the *Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1970* or any other written law.

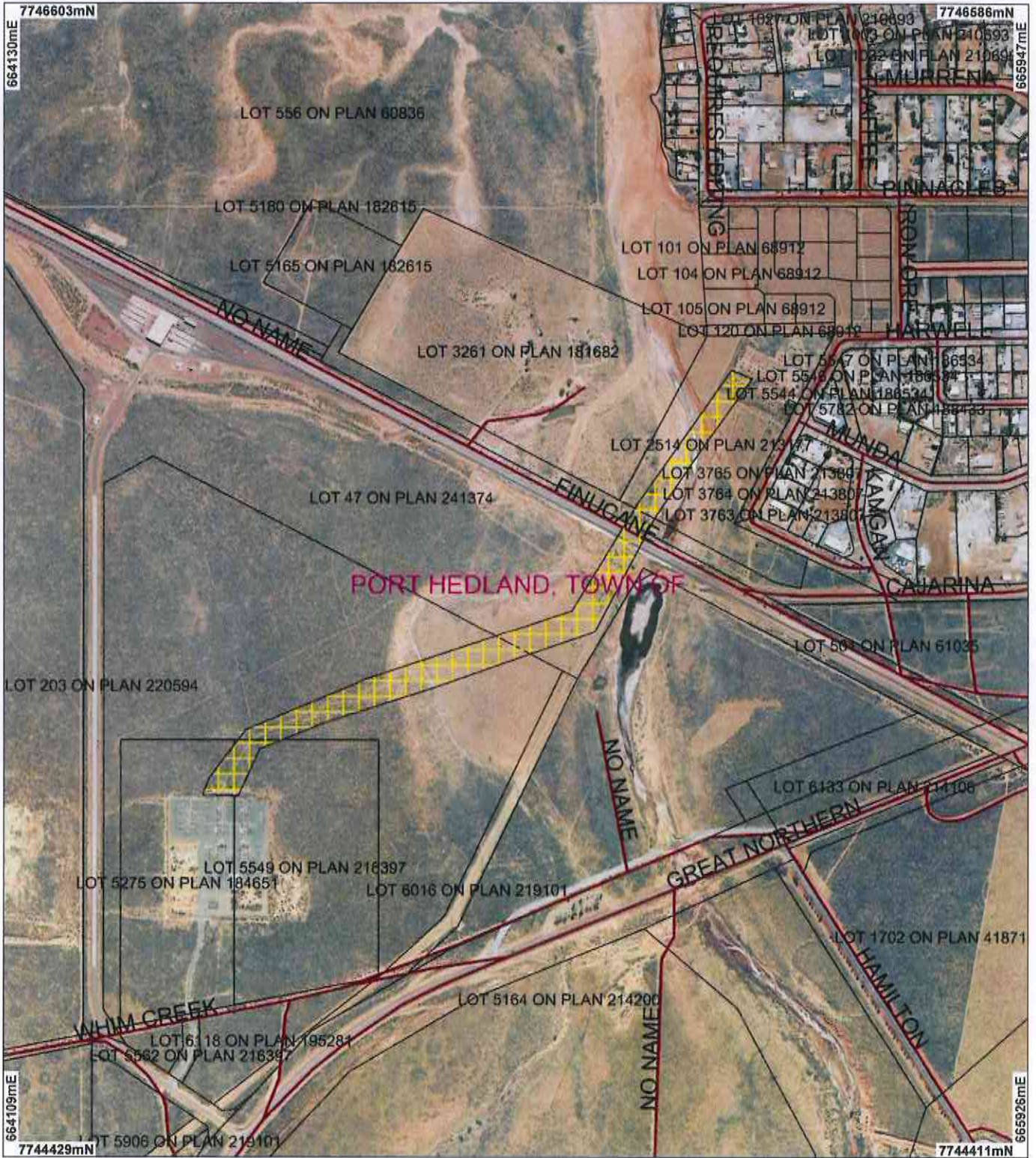
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "K Faulkner", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

3 May 2012

Plan 4940/1

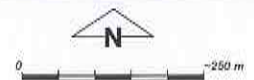


LEGEND

- Cadastre
- Towns
- Local Government Authorities

Clearing Instruments

- Areas Applied to Clear
- Areas Subject to Conditions
- Areas Approved to Clear



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

Date 3/5/12

Kelly 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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* Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4940/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property:
 LOT 5275 ON PLAN 184651 (Lot No. 5275 WHIM CREEK BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 5549 ON PLAN 216397 (Lot No. 5549 WHIM CREEK BOODARIE 6722)
 UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (BOODARIE 6722)
 ROAD RESERVE (WEDGEFIELD 6721)
 LOT 2514 ON PLAN 213177 (Lot No. 2514 HARWELL WEDGEFIELD 6721)
 LOT 47 ON PLAN 241374 (BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 47 ON PLAN 241374 (BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 47 ON PLAN 241374 (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:
0.6		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT
Decision Date: 3 May 2012

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
Beard 647: Hummock grasslands, dwarf-shrub steppe; Acacia translucens over soft spinifex.	Vegetation have been previously disturbed (DEC 2012)	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition description is taken from Horizon Power's Application for Clearing Permit - Lot 47, UCL and 2514 Finucane Rd, Port Hedland, Supporting Documentation (2012).
Beard 647: Hummock grasslands, dwarf-shrub steppe; Acacia translucens over soft spinifex.	Vegetation have been previously disturbed (DEC 2012)	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition description is taken from Horizon Power's Application for Clearing Permit - Lot 47, UCL and 2514 Finucane Rd, Port Hedland, Supporting Documentation (2012).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
 This application proposes to clear 0.6ha of native vegetation within the Town of Port Hedland for the purpose of installing underground fibre optic cables.

The overall condition of the vegetation is considered to be very good with areas that are completely degraded (Keighery 1994). The area applied to be cleared is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 647, of which approximately 100 % of its pre-European extent remains (Shepherd et al 2009).

The area under application is in close proximity to known populations of the mulgara (*Dasyurus cristicauda*) Listed as Schedule 1 under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and as vulnerable under the *Commonwealth EPBC Act 1999* (DEC 2012). However, given the long, linear extent of the project, the clearing is not likely to contain significant habitat for fauna native to Western Australia.

The assessment determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact any biodiversity, habitat or environmental values or cause any appreciable land degradation within the local or regional context. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology DEC (2012)
Keighery (1994)
Shepherd (2009)
GIS database:
- Port Headland 50cm Orthomosaic
- Pre European Vegetation

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

Comments

The clearing permit transverses an offset site which Main Roads WA has committed to rehabilitating as part of the Great Northern Highway realignment (DEC 2012).

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) sent a direct interest letter to native title claimants (DEC ref A488630) and their representative body (DEC Ref A490957). No response has been received.

Methodology

4. References

Department of Environment and Conservation (2012) Regional advice. DEC Ref: A407051
Horizon Power (2012) Application for Clearing Permit - Lot 47, UCL and 2514 Finucane Rd, Port Hedland, Supporting Documentation. DEC Ref: A483977

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)