



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	4984/2
Duration of Permit:	From 22 September 2012 to 22 September 2017
Permit Holder:	Atlas Iron 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 45/1179
Miscellaneous Licence 45/204
Miscellaneous Licence 45/207

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purposes of mineral production.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 282 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plans 4984/2A and 4984/2B.

4. Staged Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within 6 months of the clearing being undertaken.

5. 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.

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:

- (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.

8. 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.

9. Watercourse Management

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*.
- (b) Where *Floristic Community Type 10* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain existing surface flow.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. Records to be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

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.

11. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Executive Director, 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 10 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 22 September 2017, the Permit Holder must provide to the Executive Director, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 11(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

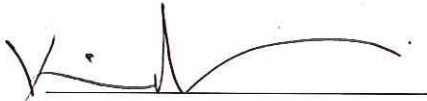
fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

Floristic Community Type 10 means the vegetation described as Floristic Community Type 10 within the document titled "Atlas Iron Limited Abydos Direct Shipping Ore Project Flora and Vegetation Studies" dated March 2012.

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;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

weeds 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*.



Kim Anderson
A/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

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

6 December 2012