



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5261/1
Permit Holder:	Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power
Duration of Permit:	From 9 November 2012 to 9 November 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 constructing transmission line infrastructure.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 602 on Deposited Plan 70566, Boodarie
Lot 265 on Deposited Plan 193736, Boodarie
Lot 487 on Deposited Plan 61851, Boodarie
Lot 203 on Deposited Plan 220594, Boodarie
Lot 366 on Deposited Plan 42164, Boodarie
Lot 409 on Deposited Plan 28588, Boodarie
Lot 6118 on Deposited Plan 195281, Boodarie
Lot 5906 on Deposited Plan 219101, Boodarie
Lot 5275 on Deposited Plan 184651, Boodarie
Lot 5562 on Deposited Plan 216397, Boodarie
Unnamed road reserve (PIN 11250200), Boodarie

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 20 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 5261/1.

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 activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the *Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979* 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.

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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

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;

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 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*.

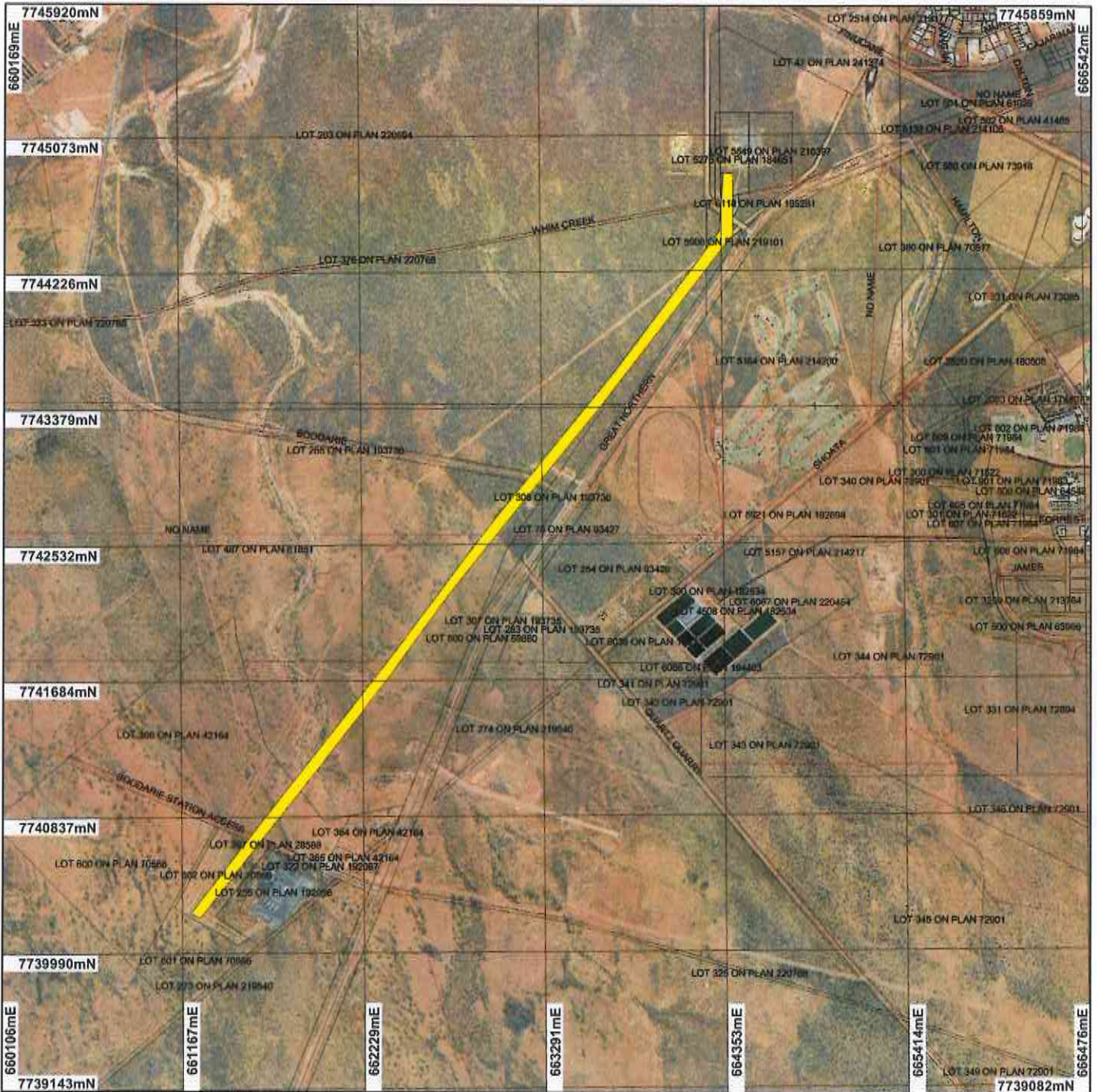


Roxane Shadbolt
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

18 October 2012

Plan 5261/1



LEGEND

Cadastral

- Freehold
- Crown Reserve
- State Forest / Timber Reserve
- Marine Park
- Crown Lease (cont)

- Lease / Reserve
- Lease on State Forest / Timber Reserve
- Public Roads
- Unallocated Crown Land
- Water
- Road Centrelines

Clearing Instruments

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Port Hedland 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004



0 700 m

Scale 1:32384

(Approximate when reproduced at Letter)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

R. Shadbolt Date 18/10/12
Roxane Shadbolt

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.: 5261/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation t/a Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 5275 ON PLAN 184651 (Lot No. 5275 WHIM CREEK BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 5562 ON PLAN 216397 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 6118 ON PLAN 195281 (BOODARIE 6722)
ROAD RESERVE (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 5906 ON PLAN 219101 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 487 ON PLAN 61851 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 265 ON PLAN 193736 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 203 ON PLAN 220594 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 366 ON PLAN 42164 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 602 ON PLAN 70566 (BOODARIE 6722)
LOT 409 ON PLAN 28588 (BOODARIE 6722)

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
20		Mechanical Removal	Water/gas/cable/pipeline/power installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 18 October 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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 589 is described as short bunch grassland of savanna, grass plain (Pilbara), hummock grasslands and grass steppe with soft spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001).	This application proposes to clear 20 hectares of native vegetation within multiple Lots, Boodarie, for the purpose of constructing 20 steel towers, along with access points to provide for ongoing maintenance of the transmission line. Vegetation will be cleared primarily by mechanical methods.	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was established through a survey of the application area undertaken by Strategen (2012).
Mapped Beard vegetation association 647 is described as hummock grasslands, dwarf-shrub steppe with Acacia translucens over soft spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The application area is predominantly composed of two vegetation types. Sandplain B consists of low Acacia stellaticeps shrublands over Triodia epactia and Triodia secunda hummock grasslands, Tussock grassland of Eragrostis sp. over Triodia spp., Hummock grassland of Triodia spp. and closed herbland. Sandplain C consists of closed heath of Acacia stellaticeps over Triodia spp. and hummock grassland of Triodia spp. with Ptilotus obovatus (Strategen, 2012).	To Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
This application proposes to clear 20 hectares of native vegetation within a 36ha footprint area over multiple Lots between South Hedland power Station and Hedland Terminal, Boodarie, for the purpose of constructing 20 steel towers, along with access points to provide for ongoing maintenance of the transmission line.

The majority of the proposal area is in excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition with the exception of some completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) areas developed for road and rail infrastructure, minor vehicle tracks and one site in a northern portion of the application area used for dumping disused equipment (Strategen, 2012).

No significant species of fauna were observed during the site inspection and no evidence of such species (scats, tracks, diggings) was recorded (Bamford, 2012). The fauna habitats within the area proposed to be cleared are well represented elsewhere within the local and regional area, therefore no significant loss of habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia is expected.

Several priority flora have been mapped within the local area (20km radius), however no priority flora, rare flora or priority ecological communities were recorded during a Level 1 Flora Survey of the application area (Strategen, 2012).

The area under application is within an extensively vegetated landscape with approximately 98 and 99 per cent of Beard vegetation Associations 647 and 589 remaining within the Pilbara Bioregion respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2011).

South West Creek passes through the application area approximately 500 m northeast of South Hedland Power Station. The applicant has advised that a minimum 50m buffer will be maintained between the South West Creek and tower locations.

The disturbance resulting from the proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into the adjacent vegetated areas. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

The proponent has advised that vegetative material and topsoil removed by the proposed clearing will be retained and stockpiled for use in rehabilitation of the site wherever possible.

Given the above the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

- Government of Western Australia (2011)
- Keighery (1994)
- Strategen (2012)
- Bamford (2012)

GIS Databases:

- SAC Biodatasets (accessed October 2012)
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

There is one Aboriginal heritage site of significance within the application area. It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 and ensure that no Aboriginal sites of significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The applicant referred this application to the Environmental Protection Authority who set the level of assessment as 'Not Assessed – Public Advice Given'.

The proposed clearing partially falls within a previous area granted to clear, CPS 3294/2.

There are multiple zonings under the local Town Planning Scheme.

Horizon Power has the power to enter and access land that is under application through Section 46 of the Energy Operator (Powers) Act 1979.

The application area is within the Karriyarra People's native title claim area. Notification of the proposed clearing has occurred and no comment has been received.

Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Clearing Instruments
- Town Planning Scheme Zones
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- Bamford (2012) Assessment for Presence of Significant Fauna. Additional information for CPS 5261/1. DEC Ref: A545155
Government of Western Australia (2011); 2011 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- 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.
- Strategen (2012) Targeted Flora Survey. Additional information for CPS 5261/1. DEC Ref: A545157

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)