



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5462/1
Permit Holder:	Kimberley Metals Group Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	4 April 2013 to 4 April 2015

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 improving site lines

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 940 on Deposited Plan 219262, being Great Northern Highway, Durack (PIN: 11179302)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.14 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 5462/1.

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.

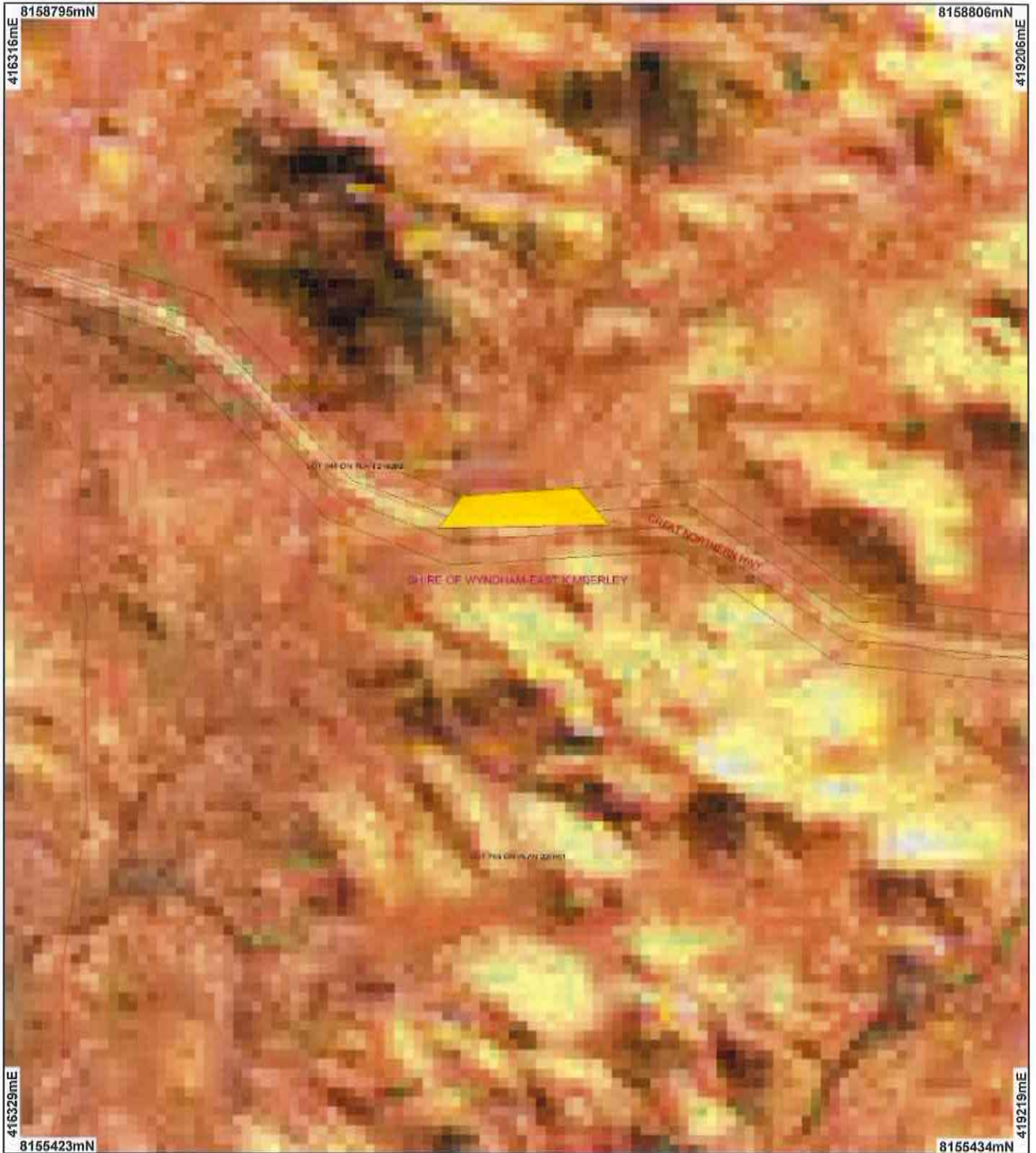
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

4 April 2013

Plan 5462/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre
- Local Government Authorities
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear

Western Australia ETM 25m
543 - AGO 2004



0 ————— 375 m

Scale 1:15701

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

M. Warnock Date *4/6/13*

M. Warnock

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 is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5462/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Kimberley Metals Group Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 940 ON PLAN 219262 (DURACK 6743)
Local Government Area: Shire of Wyndham – East Kimberley
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.14		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 4 April 2013

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
The area under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 820. This vegetation association is described as grasslands, high grass savanna sparse low tree; snappy gum (<i>Eucalyptus brevifolia</i>) over upland tall grass and curly spinifex on granite (Shepherd et al. 2001).	The application proposes to clear up to 1.14 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of improving sight lines. The applicant has advised that the clearing will be of low impact using a raised blade technique (KMG, 2012).	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was determined via aerial imagery.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

This application proposes to clear up to 1.14 hectares of native vegetation within Great Northern Highway (Lot 940 on Deposited Plan 219262), Durack, for the purpose of improving sight lines.

Seven priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius). The area under application was surveyed in the initial biological surveys undertaken for the adjacent RIOP Mine Site Mining Proposal (KMG, 2012). One Priority 1 flora species was recorded within the surveyed area but not within the current application area (KMG, 2012). This priority species is a prostrate vine. The applicant has advised that the clearing will be of low impact using a raised blade technique (KMG, 2012). This method of clearing will ensure that, if present, this priority flora species will not be cleared.

The local area is highly vegetated retaining approximately 99 percent vegetation.

Given the relatively small area under application and the extensive vegetation remaining in the local area it is unlikely to consist of significant fauna habitat.

There are no rare flora species, threatened ecological communities or conservation areas within close proximity to the application area.

Two minor perennial watercourses are mapped within the application area and therefore vegetation growing in association with a watercourse may be cleared. The proposed clearing within these watercourses may cause short term, minor sedimentation of surface water however impacts are likely to be minimal.

The proposed raised blade technique of clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

The proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

Methodology Reference:
KMG (2012)

GIS Databases:
- DEC Tenure
- Hydrography, Linear
- Pre-European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets - Accessed February 2013
- Soils, Statewide

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

Comments

This application is being made as the result of a near miss that occurred at the intersection of Ridges Mine Access and the Great Northern Highway. During a review of this incident it became apparent that the vegetation currently under application hinders road train drivers ability to see traffic approaching from the north (KMG, 2012).

Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) has provided written approval for Kimberley Metals Group to clear native vegetation within Great Northern Highway. MRWA has requested that prior to clearing they be contacted to allow for an inspection of the clearing extent to be undertaken (MRWA, 2012).

No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

Methodology References:
KMG (2012)
MRWA (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.
- KMG (2012) Supporting information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5462/1. Kimberley Metals Group Pty Ltd (DEC Ref: A594597)
- MRWA (2012) Letter of authority to clear within Great Northern Highway (DEC Ref: A594597)
- 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.

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)