



23 September 2013

Department of Environment Regulation
Native Vegetation Conservation Branch
Locked Bag 33
Cloisters Square
PERTH WA 6850

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Clearing Permit Documentation for Lot 8001 and Part Lots 9002 and 1003, Kwinana Beach Road in the Rockingham Industry Zone

On behalf of LandCorp please find attached a Clearing Permit Application (Attachment 1) to clear 11.17ha of native vegetation on Lot 8001 and Part Lots 9002 and 1003, Kwinana Beach Road in the Rockingham Industry Zone (RIZ).

1 Introduction

Lot 8001 and Part Lot 9002, Kwinana Beach Road (the site) is located in the RIZ on the western boundary which was part of the old Kwinana Townsite. A Development Application (DA) has been submitted to the City of Rockingham and the City of Kwinana. Puma Energy will be developing an import, storage and bulk fuels terminal on a portion of Lot 9002. The terminal will include a bulk storage facility for diesel, motor spirit and bitumen products. A rail spur will be required off the existing rail line which services the CBH facility located further to the south-west. The area to be cleared consists of:

- Portion of Lot 9002 & Lot 8001 (Shown as Lot 1) – primary operations (9.1762 ha);
- Portion of Lot 9002 – to become road reserve (1.1456ha);
- Portion of Lot 9002 – temporary vehicle turn around area (0.0394ha); and
- Portion of Lot 1003 – Access and rail sidings (0.8132ha)..

These areas are shown on Attachment 2.

To support this application please find attached an Environmental Assessment (Attachment 3) of the area to be cleared. The assessment was written for several areas of the RIZ so a summary of the key points is included below. The site was surveyed by Dr Paul van der Moezel on 13 August 2013 to assess the current site conditions. Current site conditions are consistent with those previously reported.

2 Site Description

2.1 Topography

The site is very gently undulating between 4 and 5m AHD.

2.2 Geomorphology and Soils

The RIZ is located on the northern portion of the Rockingham-Becher Plain, a relatively recent feature of the Quindalup Dune System between Kwinana and Mandurah created as a result of coastline accretion caused by sea level fall over the last 6,400 years. The soils are calcareous sands which are described as white, medium grained, rounded quartz and shell debris, well sorted, of eolian origin (Hyd2o, 2012). The ASS risk on these soils is low as they are calcareous.

2.3 Vegetation

The vegetation types mapped on the site are:

Xanthorrhoea preissii/Avena fatua Shrubland - This association occurs in disturbed areas and as small pockets on flat well drained areas between other vegetation types. The condition is generally poor to degraded with a large number of introduced species. Common species include *Lagurus ovatus*, *Euphorbia terracina*, *Phytolacca octandra*, and *Sonchus oleraceus* (ATA, 2006).

Acacia rostellifera Tall Shrubland - This association occurs in patches throughout the site. Along the coast this association occurs with *Melaleuca huegelii/Acacia rostellifera* associations. Understorey species include *Avena fatua*, *Euphorbia terracina*, and *Lagurus ovatus* (ATA, 2006).

There are no Threatened Ecological Communities or Priority Ecological Communities on the site.

The site is completely degraded as this area was part of the old Kwinana townsite. During the site inspection in August 2013 it was noted that the area has some regrowth of native shrubs such as *Acacia rostellifera* and a large number of introduced garden species and planted trees. Weeds form the major component of the understorey.

2.4 Flora

No Declared Rare or Priority Flora species or Commonwealth Listed species were identified during the Vegetation and Flora Assessment of the RIZ (ATA, 2006) therefore there are no Declared Rare or Priority Flora species present on the site.

2.5 Fauna

The fauna habitat on the site was described as Degraded Shrubland containing *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, *Acacia rostellifera* and *A. saligna*. The site had a large proportion of weed invested grassland and were rated as Highly Degraded Fauna Habitat. There are no trees on the site to provide hollows.

2.6 Wetlands

There are no wetlands or watercourses on the site.

3 Ten Clearing Principles

The Ten Clearing Principles have been addressed below.

Principle 1: Vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

The site is degraded and does not have a high level of biodiversity.

Principle 2: Vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

The fauna habitat is Highly Degraded and is not significant.

Principle 3: Vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.

There are no rare flora present on the site.

Principle 4: Vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

The vegetation on the site is not representative of a TEC.

Principle 5: Vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

The site is not a significant remnant of vegetation in the area and is adjacent to a Foreshore reserve with vegetation in better condition.

Principle 6: Vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

There are no wetlands or watercourses on the site.

Principle 7: Vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Clearing the vegetation on the site will not result in land degradation.

Principle 8: Vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.

The site is adjacent to a Foreshore Reserve zoned 'Parks and Recreation' under the Metropolitan Region Scheme. The development will be separated from the vegetation in the Foreshore Reserve by a 20m road reserve.

The development will not impact on the environmental values of the vegetation in the Foreshore Reserve.

Principle 9: Vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

The development on the site will be undertaken in accordance with the approved Water Management Strategy (Hyd2o, 2013). No groundwater abstraction will be undertaken for industry on the site.

Principle 10: Vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.

The clearing of the vegetation will not increase the incidence of flooding as all stormwater will be infiltrated onsite including the 1 in 100 ARI event in accordance with the RIZ WMS.

4 Conclusion

The proposed 11.17ha of clearing of the degraded vegetation within the site is not in contravention of the clearing principles.

Please contact me if you would like full copies of the technical reports referred to in the Environmental Assessment and if you would also like some assistance on site during a site inspection.

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