



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	5839/2
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 14 December 2013 to 14 December 2023
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Fortescue Metals Group 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**

*Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963, Mineral Lease 4SA (70/4)*

**2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purpose of access track construction.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 3.45 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plans 5839/2A and 5839/2B.

**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.

### PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

**5. 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.

**6. Watercourse management**

(a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian* vegetation.

(b) Where a *watercourse* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.

## 7. Retain and spread vegetative material and topsoil

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared;
- (b) within 6 months after the access tracks are no longer needed for the purpose for which they were cleared, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the access tracks by:
  - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
  - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 7(a) on the cleared area.

## **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

### 8. 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.

### 9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety 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 8 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 14 December 2023, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(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;

*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;

*rehabilitate/ed/ion* means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

*revegetate/ed/ion* means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

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

*watercourse* has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

*weed/s* means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



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Daniel Endacott  
General Manager Environmental Compliance  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
06 December 2018

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