

#### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

**Purpose Permit number:** 5875/1

**Duration of Permit:** 8 February 2014 – 8 February 2025

Permit Holder: Southern Cross Pipelines Australia Pty Ltd

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

Goldfields Gas Pipeline Agreement Act 1994 Pipeline Licence No. 24

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

Clearing for the purposes of pipeline access, operation and maintenance.

### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 2,000 hectares of native vegetation.

# 4. Clearing not Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation within Wanjarri Nature Reserve and the Goongarrie Nature Reserve.

# 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.

# PART II - ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

# 6. Weed control

- (a) 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.

- (b) (i) During the Month of August each year for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill Saffron Thistle (*Carthamus lantanus*) within the Permit Area;
  - (ii) During the Month of January each year for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill Mexican Poppy (*Argemone Mexicana*) and Thornapples (*Datura* sp.) within the Permit Area;

# PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

#### 7. Records to be kept

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

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit,
  - 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.

# 8. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, 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 7 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 8 February 2025, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 7 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 8(a) of this Permit.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

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

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment and Regulation or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

direct seeding means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

*environmental specialist* means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

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

*local provenance* means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 200 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared;

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;

planting means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

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

*regenerate/ed/ion* means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing *mulch*;

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

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 Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

Virginia Simms

A/DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

**ENVIRONMENT** 

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

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

16 January 2014