



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6013/2
Permit Holder:	DDG Fortescue River Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	12 July 2014 – 12 July 2029

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, installing and operating a natural gas pipeline and access track.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 90 on Deposited Plan 215601 (Reserve 41435), Mardie
Lot 91 on Deposited Plan 215601 (Reserve 41436), Mardie
Lot 174 on Deposited Plan 190732 (Reserve 44742), Mardie
Lot 257 on Deposited Plan 30489, Mardie
Lot 600 on Plan 401856, Mardie
Lot 1501 on Plan 74341, Mardie
Lot 9 on Deposited Plan 47815, Chichester
Lot 82 on Deposited Plan 220191, Chichester
Lot 83 on Deposited Plan 238012, Chichester
Lot 203 on Plan 402892, Chichester
Lot 52 on Deposited Plan 54397, Fortescue
Lot 53 on Deposited Plan 56850, Fortescue
Lot 61 on Deposited Plan 240249, Fortescue
Lot 206 on Deposited Plan 220090, Fortescue
Lot 208 on Deposited Plan 220090, Fortescue
Lot 245 on Deposited Plan 220090, Fortescue
Lot 307 on Plan 63519, Fortescue
Lot 309 on Deposited Plan 63519, Fortescue
Lot 313 on Deposited Plan 63520, Fortescue
Lot 54 on Deposited Plan 241547, Pannawonica
Lot 40 on Deposited Plan 242287, Hamersley Range
Lot 148 on Deposited Plan 93149 (Reserve 38991), Hamersley Range
Lot 128 on Deposited Plan 240249, Fortescue
Lot 201 on Plan 402889, Hamersley Range
Lot 502 on Plan 405377, Hamersley Range
Lot 503 on Plan 405377, Hamersley Range
Lot 504 on Plan 405377, Hamersley Range
Lot 205 on Plan 402894, Mount Sheila
North West Coastal Highway road reserve, Mardie (PIN11733356)
Unnamed road reserve, Chichester (PIN11732084)

Unnamed road reserve, Chichester (PIN 12114835)
Unallocated Crown land, Mount Sheila (PIN 1016569)
Unallocated Crown land, Mount Sheila (PIN 12114811)
Unallocated Crown land, Mount Sheila (PIN 12114810)
Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 1016554)
Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 1016550)
Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 12205068)
Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 12264207)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 881 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 6013/2 (a), Plan 6013/2 (b), Plan 6013/2 (c), Plan 6013/2 (d), Plan 6013/2 (e), Plan 6013/2 (f), Plan 6013/2 (g) and Plan 6013/2 (h)

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. Period in which clearing is authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 12 July 2024.

PART II –MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of 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.

7. 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;
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared;
 - (iv) only move soils in dry conditions; and
 - (v) where weed-affected soil, mulch, fill or other material is to be removed from the area to be cleared, ensure it is transferred to areas of comparable soil disease status.
- (b) At least once in each 6 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

8. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

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) At an optimal time within 12 months following clearing authorised under this Permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* areas no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit, by:
 - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
 - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 8(a) on the cleared area(s).

- (c) Within 24 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 8(b) of this Permit:
 - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
 - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 8(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.
- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 8(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 8(c)(i) and 8(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 8(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the *CEO* does not agree with the determination made under condition 8(c)(ii), the *CEO* may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 8(c)(ii).

9. Construction Environmental Plan

- (a) The Permit Holder must prepare a Construction Environment Plan;
- (b) The final Construction Environment Plan must be approved by the *CEO* prior to commencing works; and
- (c) Prior to clearing the Permit Holder must implement the approved Construction Environment Plan.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. Records must 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:
 - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) 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;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
 - (v) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit;
 - (vi) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit; and
 - (vii) actions taken in accordance with condition 9 of this Permit.
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 8 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of any areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*, 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) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken;

- (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares);
- (iv) the species composition, structure and density of *revegetation* and *rehabilitation*; and
- (v) a copy of the environmental specialist's report.

11. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 31 December of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 10 of this Permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 31 December of each year.
- (c) Prior to 12 March 2029, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

botanist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in Western Australian flora identification and undertaking flora surveys native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable environmental specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid flora licence issued under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*;

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under 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 holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable environmental specialist;

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 100 kilometres 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;

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 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

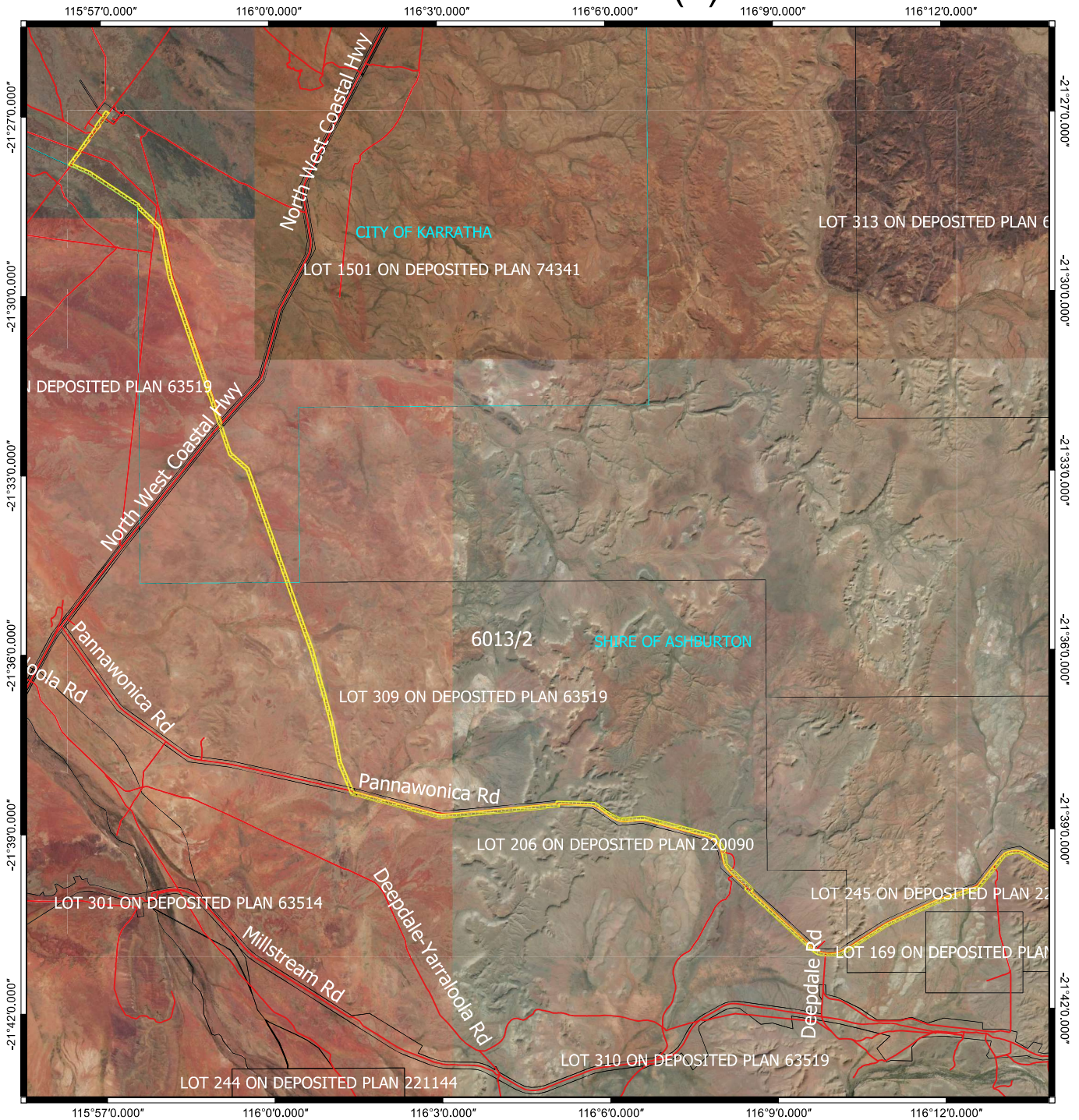


Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION





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

10 October 2019

Plan 6013/2 (a)



Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Cadastre
-  Roads
- Image



MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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



Plan 6013/2 (b)



Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Cadastre
-  Roads

Image



MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

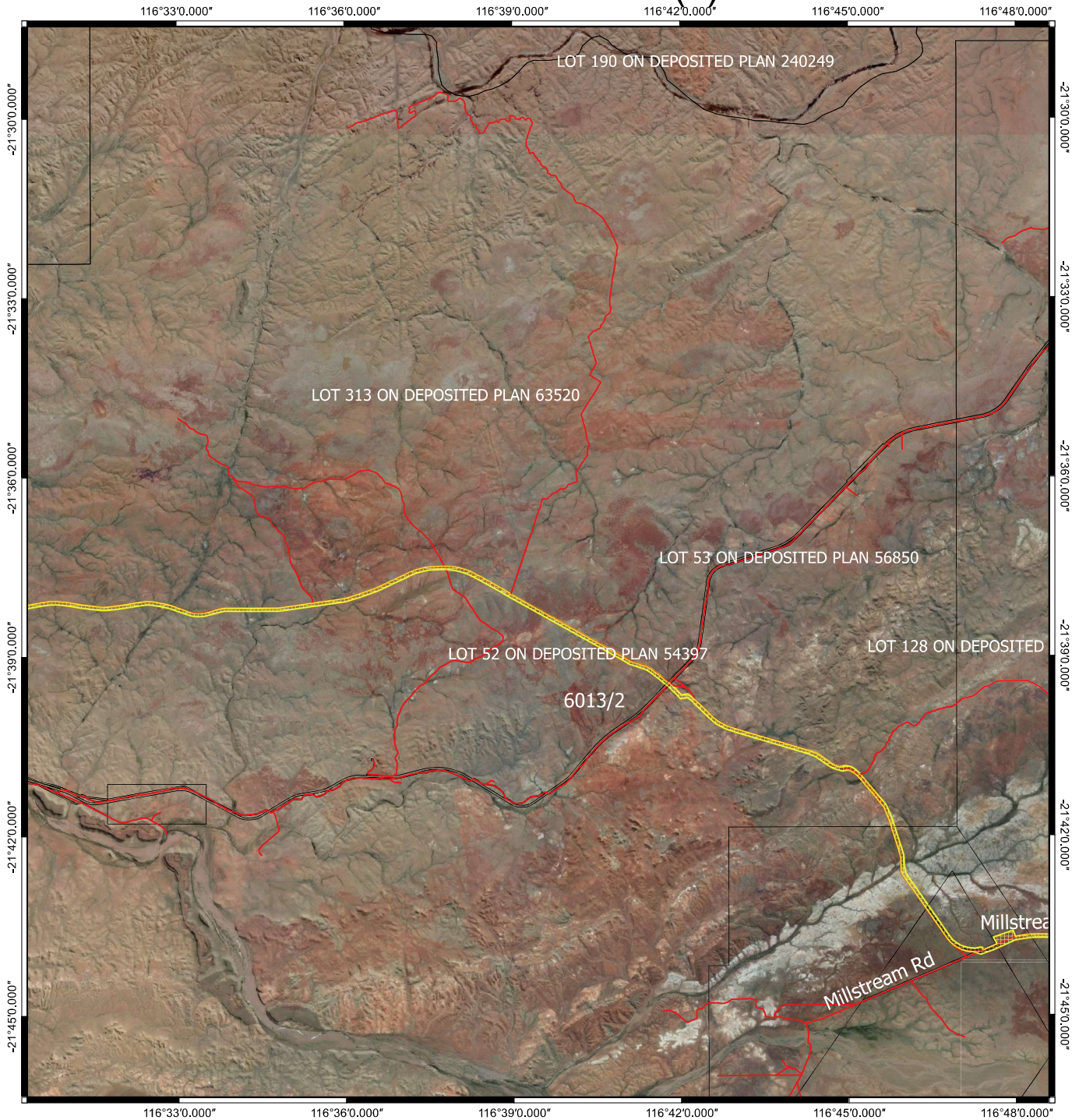
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





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Plan 6013/2 (c)




Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Cadastre
-  Roads
- Image



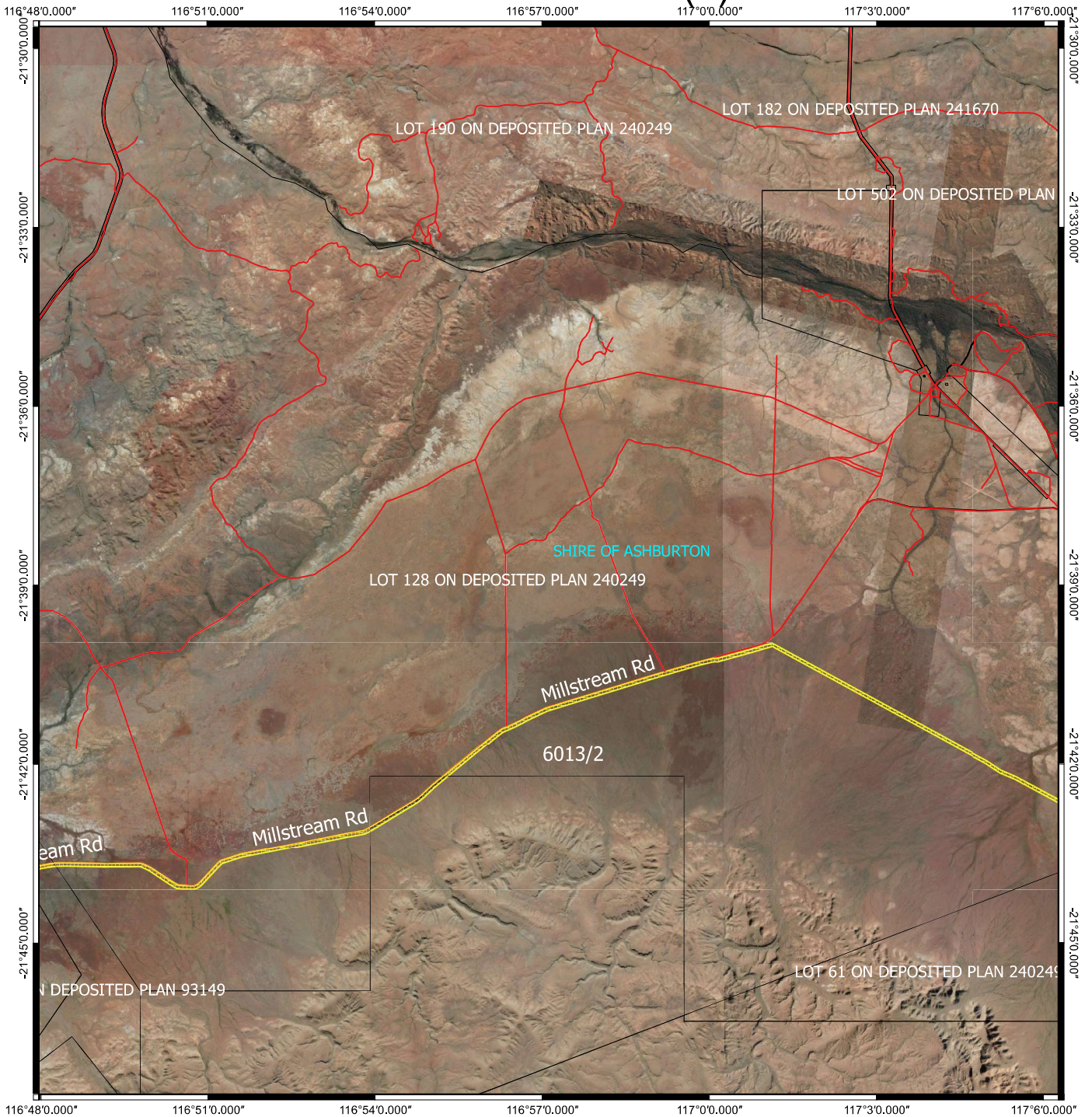
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Plan 6013/2 (d)



Legend

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-  Cadastre
-  Roads
- Image



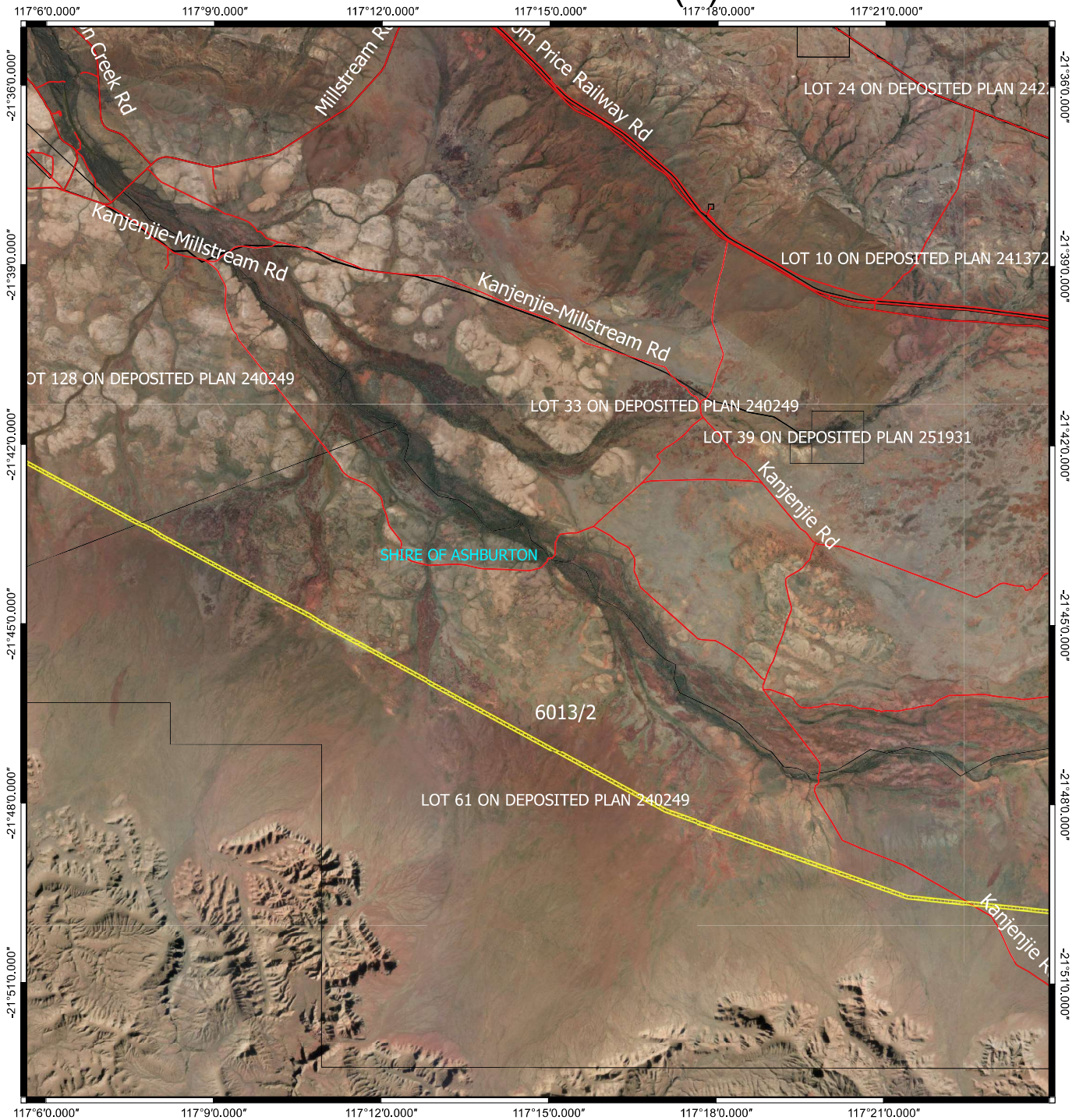
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Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



Plan 6013/2 (e)



Legend

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-  Local Government Authorities
-  Cadastre
-  Roads
- Image



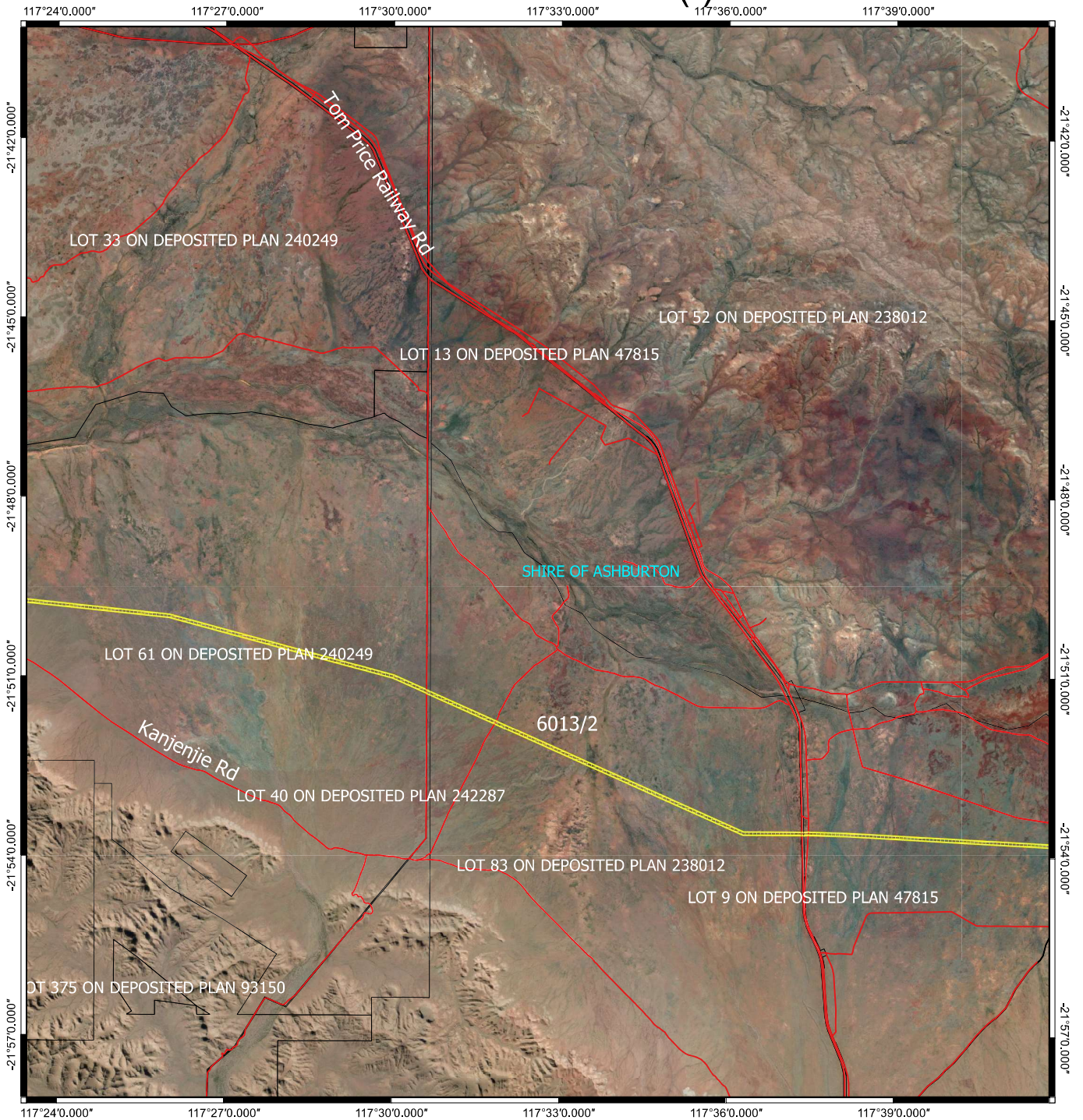
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of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

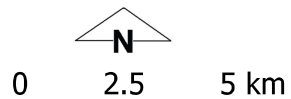


Plan 6013/2 (f)




Legend

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-  Cadastre
-  Roads
- Image



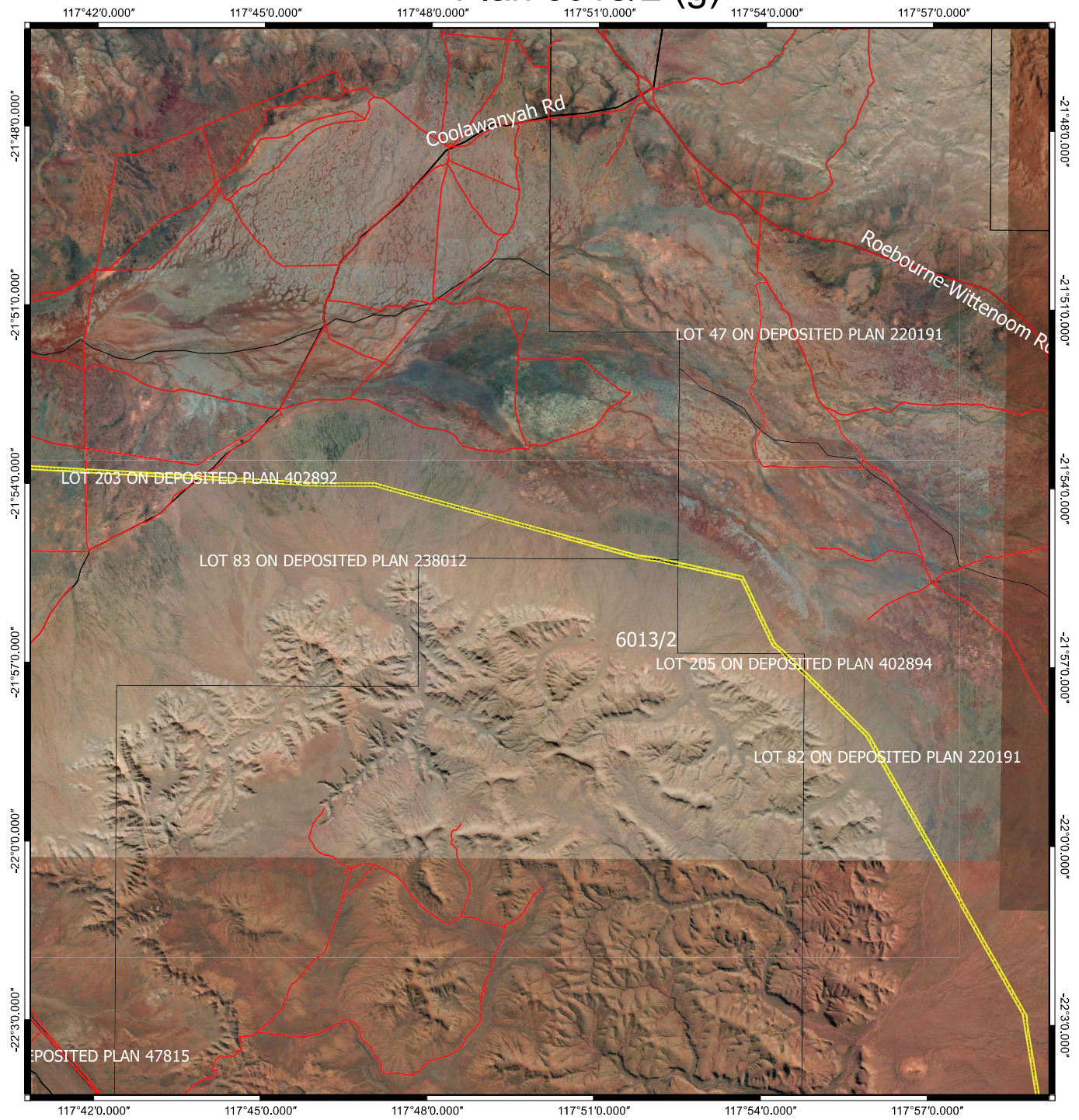
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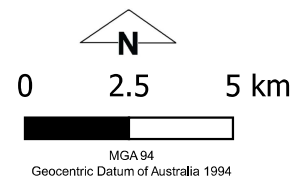



Plan 6013/2 (g)



Legend

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-  Cadastre
-  Roads
- Image

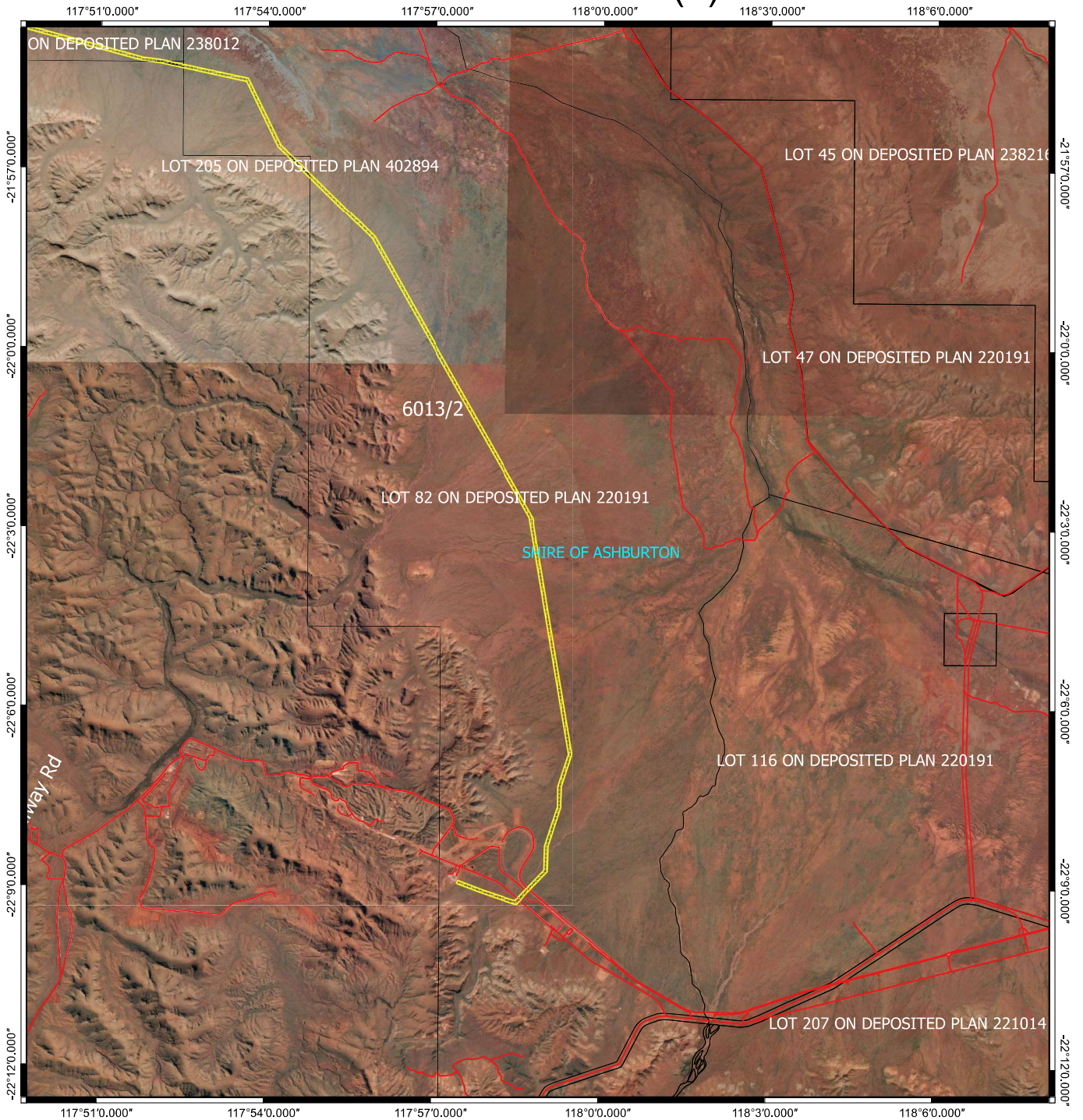



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Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



Plan 6013/2 (h)



Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Cadastrate
-  Roads
- Image



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Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6013/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: DDG Fortescue River Pty Ltd
Application received date: 05 July 2019

1.3. Property details

Property:
 Lot 90 on Deposited Plan 215601 (Reserve 41435), Mardie
 Lot 91 on Deposited Plan 215601 (Reserve 41436), Mardie
 Lot 174 on Deposited Plan 190732 (Reserve 44742), Mardie
 Lot 257 on Deposited Plan 30489, Mardie
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 Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 1016550)
 Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 12205068)
 Unallocated Crown land, Hamersley Range (PIN 12264207)
Local Government Authority: City of Karratha and Shire of Ashburton
Localities: Chichester, Hamersley Range, Fortescue, Pannawonica, Mardie and Mount Sheila

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
881		Mechanical Removal	Water/gas/cable/pipeline/power installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 10 October 2019
Reasons for Decision: This amendment is to extend the duration of clearing permit CPS 6013/2. A review of current environmental information reveals no new additional information. Therefore the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed from the assessment for clearing permit CPS 6013/2.

To align the clearing permit with current Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) practice, new conditions regarding avoiding and minimising impact and recording and reporting requirements have been added to the clearing permit.

Taking into account the above information, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing will have no additional environmental impacts.

Given the above, the Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions regarding weed control, revegetation and the construction environment plan in line with clearing permit CPS 6013/1 and the additional management conditions discussed above.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description

The application to amend proposed to clear 881 hectares of native vegetation within various properties listed in Section 1.3 of this Report in Chichester, Hamersley Range, Fortescue, Pannawonica, Mardie and Mount Sheila (the Application Area), for the purpose of constructing, installing and operating a natural gas pipeline and access track.

Vegetation Description

The application area occurs within the 'Pilbara' Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion, and is mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations (Shepherd et al, 2001):

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 29 is described as sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 82 is described as hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over *Triodia wiseana*;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 111 is described as Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; *Eucalyptus gamophylla* over hard spinifex;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 173 is described as Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji over soft spinifex & *Triodia wiseana* on basalt;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 175 is described as short bunch grassland - savanna/grass plain (Pilbara);

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 601 is described as mosaic: sedgeland; various sedges with very sparse snakewood / hummock grasslands, shrub-steppe; kanji over soft spinifex;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 603 is described as Hummock grasslands, sparse shrub steppe; *Acacia bivenosa* over hard spinifex;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 605 is described as hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; *Acacia pachycarpa* & waterwood over soft spinifex;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 609 is described as mosaic: hummock grasslands, open low tree steppe; bloodwood with sparse kanji shrubs over soft spinifex / hummock grasslands, open low tree steppe; snappy gum over *Triodia wiseana* lateritic crust;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 629 is described as mosaic: short bunch grassland - savannah/grass plain (Pilbara) / hummock grasslands, grass steppe; hard spinifex *Triodia wiseana*;

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 644 is described as hummock grasslands, open low tree steppe; mulga & snakewood over soft spinifex & *T. basedowii*; and

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 645 is described as hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji & snakewood over soft spinifex & *T. wiseana*.

(Shepherd et al., 2001).

A Level 1 flora and vegetation survey undertaken by Matiske Consulting (2013) identified thirty vegetation communities across the survey area. Much of the survey area contains a mosaic of sparse *Acacia* spp. shrubland and open *Triodia* spp. hummock grassland on flats to low natural relief, interspersed with creek and flow line associations of predominantly *Eucalyptus victrix* / *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* dominated macro-channels and *Corymbia hamersleyana* / *Acacia* spp. dominated micro-channels and flood-out zones.

Mid slope and ridge associations contain species such as *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia*, *Acacia inaequilatera*, *Acacia maitlandii* and *Grevillea pyramidalis*. Soft

spinifex and /or mixed tussock grasses are common on flats and lower slopes, with hard spinifex (e.g. *Triodia wiseana*) more dominant higher in the landscape (Mattiske Consulting, 2013).

Vegetation Condition

Pristine: No obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery,1994)

To

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994)

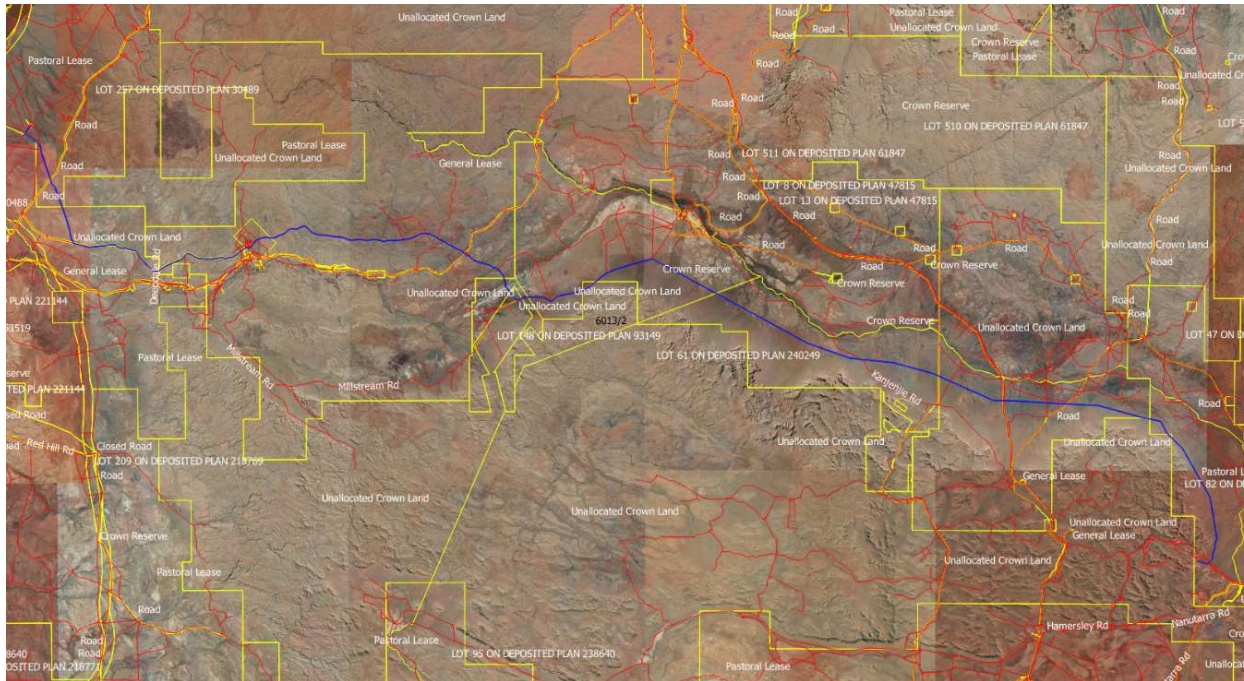


Figure 1: Map of application area (hatched blue)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

This amendment is to extend the duration of clearing permit CPS 6013/1. A review of current environmental information reveals no new additional information. Therefore the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6013/1.

To align the clearing permit with current DWER practice, new conditions regarding avoiding and minimising impact and recording and reporting requirements have been added to the clearing permit.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The clearing permit amendment was advertised on DWER's website on 5 September 2019 for a public submission period closing 3 October 2019. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

The proposed clearing consists of up to 881 hectares within multiple lots, road reserves and unallocated Crown land within the Shire of Roebourne and Shire of Ashburton, for the purpose of constructing, installing and operating a natural gas pipeline and access track. The proposed pipeline is approximately 266 kilometres long and is required to transport natural gas from the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline to the Solomon Power Station.

The proposed clearing falls within several Aboriginal Sites of Significance. 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 application area falls within two native title claim areas. Notification of the proposed clearing has been sent to the Yinibarndi People 5 and Ngarluma People 5 native title claimants. No comments have been received.

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.
- Mattiske Consulting (2013) Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey undertaken September 2013. Additional information for CPS 6013/1 DER Ref A729319.
- 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.