



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	6019/3
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 17 May 2014 to 17 May 2029
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Hinckley Range 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**

Miscellaneous Licence 69/19

**2. Clearing authorised (purpose)**

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of groundwater exploration.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 25 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

**4. Directional clearing**

The Permit Holder shall must:

- conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in one direction towards adjacent vegetation; and
- allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

### **PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

**5. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing**

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared under this Permit, the Permit Holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending order of preference:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

**6. 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*:

- Clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- Ensure that no known *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and

- (c) Restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## 7. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the Permit Area for the presence of *threatened flora* listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*.
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *targeted flora survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) If *threatened* or *priority flora* are identified within the Permit Area, the *targeted flora survey* report must include the following:
  - (i) the location of each *threatened* and *priority flora*, either as the location of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the areal extent of the population and an estimate of the number of plants, 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 species name of each *threatened* and *priority flora* identified;
  - (iii) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area;
  - (iv) the extent of the identified *threatened* or *priority flora* shown on a map; and
  - (v) a site description of where the *threatened* or *priority flora* found.
- (d) Where *threatened flora* or *priority flora* are identified under Condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) no clearing of identified *threatened flora* occurs and no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified rare flora unless first approved by the *CEO*;
  - (ii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs; and
  - (iii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 8. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a fauna survey of that area to identify the following:
  - (i) *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby) burrows;
  - (ii) *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows;
  - (iii) *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) burrows; and
  - (iv) *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows.
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) The *fauna survey* report must include the following:
  - (i) the location of the burrows 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 location of any fauna species, as listed in Condition 8(a) if identified, 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.
  - (iii) the species name of each fauna identified;
  - (iv) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area.
- (d) Where burrows are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 9. Fauna management

Where *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows or *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) burrows have been identified and their written location(s), provided to the *CEO*, within report 'Level 1 Terrestrial Fauna Assessment of the Cobb Depression Borefield and Pipeline Route, May 2013', as retained on Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety File No. A0465/201401 as Doc ID A59033361, the Permit

Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) no clearing of identified *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows or *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) burrows occurs unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
- (ii) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows or *Dasyercus cristicauda* (Crest-tailed Mulgara) burrows unless first approved by the *CEO*.

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

#### **10. Records to be kept**

The Permit Holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Records that must be kept**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Relevant matter</b>	<b>Specifications</b>
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) 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;</li> <li>(b) the date that the area was cleared;</li> <li>(c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</li> <li>(d) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extend of clearing in accordance with Condition 5; and</li> <li>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk and the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with Condition 6.</li> </ul>
2.	In relation to flora management condition pursuant to Condition 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the name and location of each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</li> <li>(b) actions taken to demarcate each threatened flora and/or priority flora species recorded and their relevant buffers; and</li> <li>(c) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species.</li> </ul>
3.	In relation to fauna management condition pursuant to Condition 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the location of burrows, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</li> <li>(b) The name and location of any fauna species as listed in condition 8(a) a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings.</li> </ul>

#### **11. Reporting**

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* 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 10 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* by 31 July of each year.

- (c) Prior to 17 May 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

In this Permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

**Table 2: Definitions**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
CEO	the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for administering the clearing provisions contained within the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition/s	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
fauna survey	means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area. Where conservation significant fauna are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.
fauna specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the <i>CEO</i> as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
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.
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.
priority flora	means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' <i>Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia</i> (as amended).
targeted flora survey	means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of flora and vegetation of the Permit Area, focusing on habitat suitable for flora species that are being targeted and carried out during the optimal time to identify those species. Where target flora are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.
threatened flora	means those plant taxa listed as threatened flora under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
weed/s	means any plant – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</li> <li>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> </ul>

Term	Definition
	(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.
Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice	means those plant taxa gazetted as a threatened flora pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).

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**END OF CONDITIONS**

*Danielle Risbey*

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**Danielle Risbey** | Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
15 February 2024

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

# SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1).

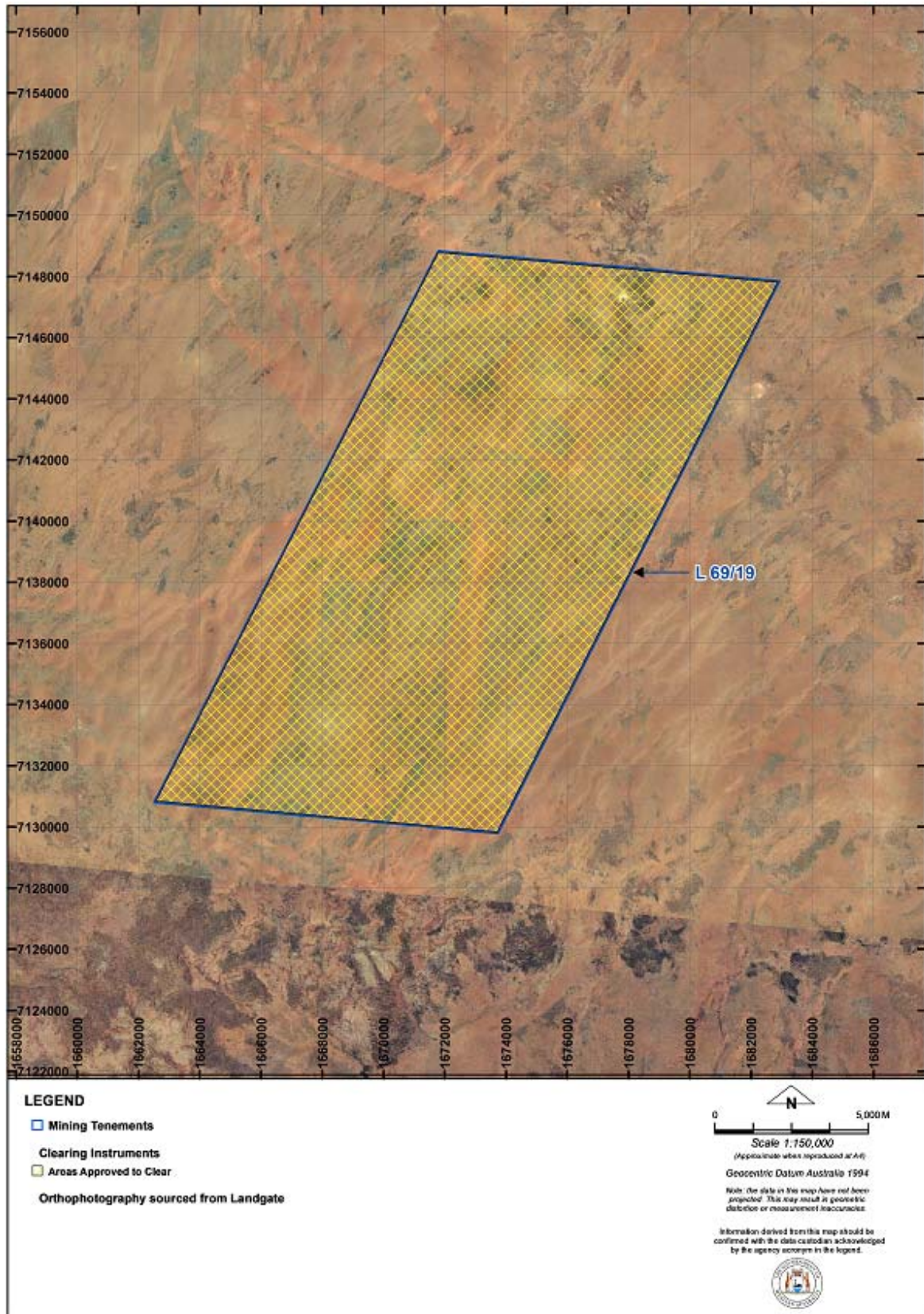


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur