

# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	6361/2
Duration of Permit:	From 21 February 2015 to 21 February 2025
Permit Holder:	APA Operations 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
  - Pipeline Licence 108 Miscellaneous Licence 38/105 Miscellaneous Licence 39/225 Miscellaneous Licence 39/226 Miscellaneous Licence 39/227 Miscellaneous Licence 39/228 Miscellaneous Licence 39/233 Miscellaneous Licence 39/234

# 2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of a gas pipeline.

# 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1000 hectares of native vegetation.

## 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. 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.

# 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) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any weeds growing within the areas cleared under this permit.

#### 7. Monitoring Plan

- (a) By 1 September 2015 the Permit Holder must submit a Monitoring Plan for the Sandhill Dunnart (*Sminthopsis psammophila*) to the *CEO*.
- (b) The Monitoring Plan must include:
  - (i) The method of monitoring;
  - (ii) The location of the monitoring; and
  - (iii) The frequency and timing of monitoring.
- (c) The Monitoring Plan must be approved by the *CEO* prior to being implemented.
- (d) The approved Monitoring Plan must be implemented by the Permit Holder.
- (e) If it is necessary to modify the Monitoring Plan, the Permit Holder must submit the modified plan to the *CEO*.
- (f) A modified Monitoring Plan must not be implemented until approved by the CEO.

#### 8. Flora Management

Where *Caesia talingka*, *Labichea eremaea* and *Melaleuca apostiba* have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO* within report "Sunrise Dam Gold Mine to Tropicana Gold Mine Gas Pipeline Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey, July 2014", the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of *Caesia talingka*, *Labichea eremaea* and *Melaleuca apostiba*, unless first approved by the *CEO*.
- (ii) no clearing of *Caesia talingka, Labichea eremaea* and *Melaleuca apostiba* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

#### 9. Fauna Management

The Permit Holder shall not clear within 50 metres of Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) mounds at the following locations:

- (i) 645881 mE 6763450 mN Zone 51
- (ii) 466511 mE 6781782 mN Zone 51

## PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

### 10. 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:
  - (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.
- (b) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 5 of this Permit; and

(c) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with Condition 6 of this Permit.

## 11. 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 1 October 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) Prior to 21 February 2025, 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 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:

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

*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;

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.

Daniel Endacott General Manager Environmental Compliance Resource and Environmental Compliance Division 20 February 2020

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