



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 6425/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	28 March 2015– 28 March 2020

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 installing a ring main unit and underground power cable.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Lot 392 on Deposited Plan 218390, ROEBUCK 6725  
Lot 423 on Deposited Plan 218390, ROEBUCK 6725  
Lot 424 on Deposited Plan 218390, ROEBUCK 6725  
Lot 360 on Deposited Plan 67926, BILINGURR 6725  
Fairway Drive road reserve, BILINGURR 6725 (PIN 11479498)  
Broome Road reserve, ROEBUCK 6725 (PIN 11731369, PIN 1164417)  
Broome Road reserve, BILINGURR 6725 (PIN11500361)

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 3.7 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6425/1.

**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. Type of clearing authorised**

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the project activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those *project activities* under the *Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1970* or any other written law.

### PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

**6. 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) within 1 month following the completion of works authorised under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
- (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
  - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 6(a) on the cleared area(s).

## DEFINITIONS

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

***local provenance*** means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 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;

***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*;

***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*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.



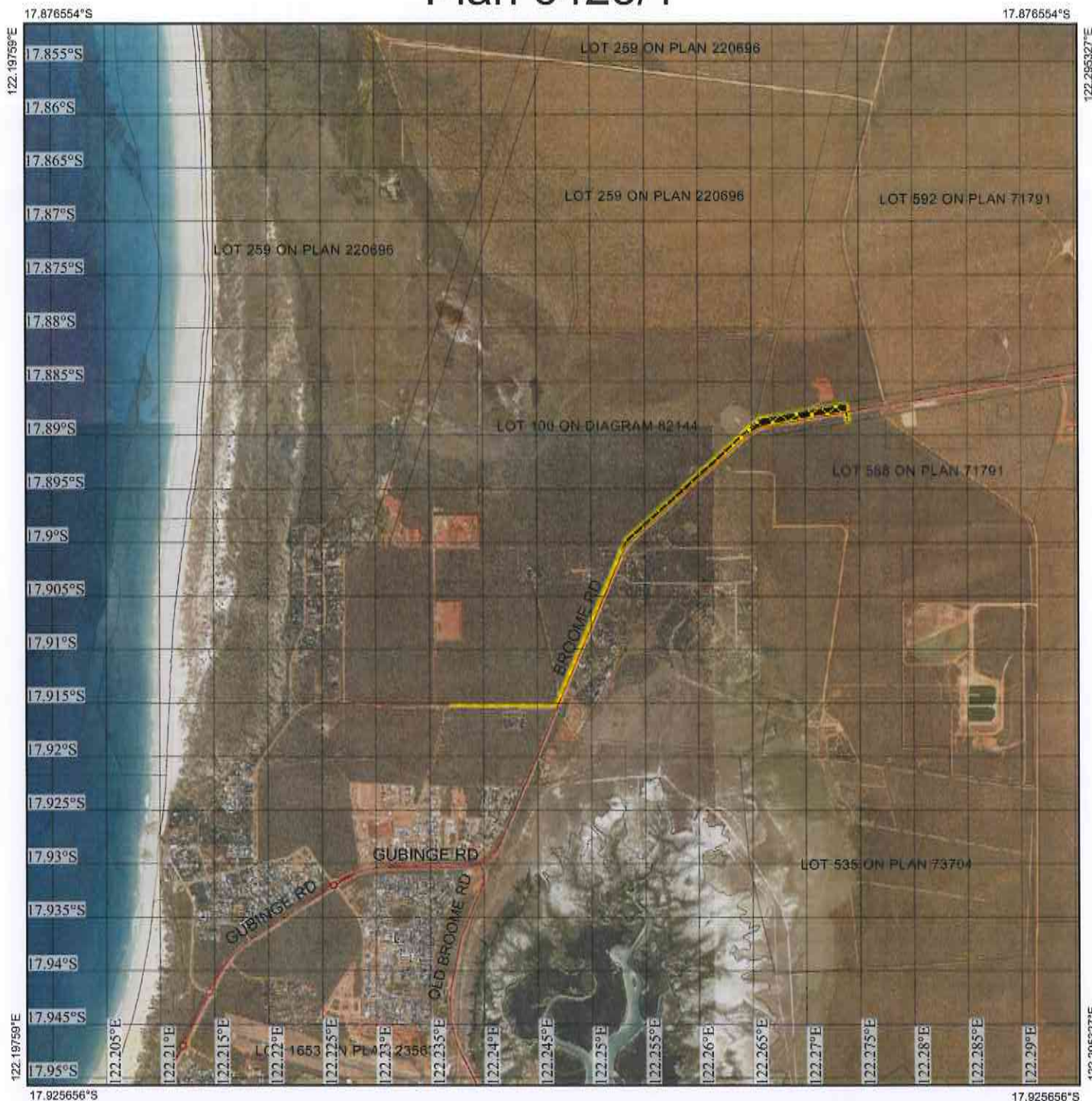
Jane Clarkson  
A/SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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

26 February 2015

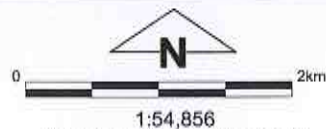


# Plan 6425/1



## Legend

-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Roads



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)  
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*J Clarkson* Date 26.2.15

J Clarkson

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

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the



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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6425/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power  
Postal address: PO Box 1066 BENTLEY DC WA 6983  
Contacts: Phone: 63101820  
Fax:  
Email: david.tovey@horizonpower.com.au

### 1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (BILINGURR 6725)  
ROAD RESERVE (ROEBUCK 6725)  
LOT 360 ON PLAN 67926 (BILINGURR 6725)  
LOT 391 ON PLAN 218390 (ROEBUCK 6725)  
LOT 423 ON PLAN 218390 (ROEBUCK 6725)  
LOT 424 ON PLAN 218390 (ROEBUCK 6725)

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3.7		Mechanical Removal	Installation of Power Cables

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 26 February 2015

## 2. Background

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Mapped Beard vegetation association 750 is described as Shrublands, pindan; Acacia tumida shrubland with grey box & cabbage gum medium woodland over ribbon grass & curly spinifex (Shepherd et al 2001).	The proposal is to clear up to 3.7 hectares of native vegetation, for the purpose of installing underground power cables	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The majority of the application area is in very good to good condition with some areas in degraded condition (GHD 2009).
		To	The vegetation under application is considered to be Pindan shrubland consisting of Acacia sp., with some areas with emergent tree layer of Eucalyptus and Grevillea species (Horizon Power 2015).
		Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was established through aerial photography and extrapolated from a flora survey of land adjacent to some areas of Broome Highway and Fairway Drive south of the application area (GHD 2009).



### 3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

#### Comments

The proposed clearing of 3.7 hectares is for the purpose of installing underground power cables. The vegetation under application consists of Pindan shrubland consisting of Acacia sp., with some areas with emergent tree layer of Eucalyptus and Grevillea species (Horizon Power 2015). The majority of the application area is in very good to good (Keighery 1994) condition with some areas in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition (Horizon Power 2015).

Numerous fauna species of conservation significance were recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius). The majority of the fauna recorded were migratory bird species associated with Roebuck Bay. However, the breeding habitat for one species, the Rainbow Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*), may occur within the application area (Parks and Wildlife 2015). This species has been regularly recorded in disturbed habitats including roadside vegetation where they often breed (Department of the Environment 2015). However, given the availability of suitable habitat in the highly vegetated (95 percent) local area (10 kilometre radius), the area under application is not considered to be significant habitat for conservation significant fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Based on the flora survey of the Broome Industrial Development (GHD 2009) to the south of the application area which is considered to have a similar vegetation type as the area under application, the clearing area may contain suitable habitat for a priority one flora species (Parks and Wildlife 2015). Given the linear shape and small size of the proposed clearing it is considered unlikely for the clearing to have a significant impact on the conservation of this species (Parks and Wildlife 2015).

There are two Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) located within the local area namely, Vine thickets and Roebuck Bay Mudflats both of which have buffers which extend into the application area. The area under application occurs two kilometres and one kilometre, respectively from these TECs. The application area consists of Acacia woodland and does not contain habitat that supports the known TECs. Therefore, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on either TEC.

The proposed clearing of 3.7 hectares occurs on red earthy pindan sands (Northcote et al 1960-68) and therefore is susceptible to wind and water erosion. The proposed clearing is not considered to cause appreciable land degradation in the form of erosion given the small size and linear shape of the clearing. The proposed clearing is one kilometre north of an area of inundation that drains into Roebuck Bay however given the distance; the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause sedimentation of surface water of Roebuck Bay.

No wetlands or watercourses occur within the application area, therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on riparian vegetation or cause flooding.

Given the clearing consists of 3.7 hectares along a long and linear area and the local area (10 kilometer radius) is highly vegetated (95 percent), it is unlikely for the proposed clearing to impact on nearby conservation areas.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.

#### Methodology

##### References

- Parks and Wildlife (2015)
- Keighery (1994)
- Department of the Environment (2015)
- GHD (2009)
- Horizon Power (2015)
- Northcote et al (1960-68)

##### GIS databases:

- Pre-European Vegetation
- Hydrography, linear
- SAC Bio datasets (Accessed 21 January 2015)



## Planning instrument, Native Title, RIWI Act Licence, EP Act Licence, Works Approval, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

### Comments

The proposed clearing of 3.7 hectares is for the purpose of installing a ring main unit within Lot 360 Fairway Drive and the installation of underground cables within Fairway Drive road reserve and Broome Road reserve to supply power to the proposed LandCorp Broome Industrial Estate (Horizon Power 2015).

Three Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped over the application area. It is the proponent's responsibility to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites are damaged and it is recommended that they liaise with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs regarding obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The application area is zoned as Development and Major Roads under the Broome Town Planning Scheme.

The Shire of Broome (2015) recommends that the application area is mulched and revegetated as soon as possible after works are completed as mulching is the Shire's preferred method of erosion and silt control. The proposed works are within a drainage corridor that directly discharges into Roebuck Bay. To minimise the silt and erosion impact from surface water run-off, stabilisation of this area is recommended through appropriate revegetation methods (Shire of Broome 2015).

No submissions from the public have been received.

### Methodology

#### References

- Horizon Power (2015)
- Shire of Broome (2015)
- GIS databases:
  - Town Planning Scheme Zones
  - Aboriginal Sites of Significance

## 4. References

Department of the Environment (2015). *Merops ornatus* in Species Profile and Threats Database, Department of the Environment, Canberra. Available from: <http://www.environment.gov.au/sprat>. Accessed Tue, 24 Feb 2015

GHD (2009) LandCorp Broome North: Southern Portion (Area A) Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment and Biological Survey. GHD September 2009

Horizon Power (2015) Clearing Application and Supporting Documentation for CPS 6425/1 - 3.7 hectares - Lot 392, 423 and 424 on Deposited Plan 218390, Roebuck, Lot 360 on Deposited Plan 67926 and Fairway Drive and Broome Road Reserves. DER ref A85220

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

Parks and Wildlife (2015) Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6425/1 Horizon Power. Department of Parks and Wildlife. DER ref A864750

Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

Shire of Broome (2015) Direct Interest Response for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6425/1 Horizon Power. DER ref A861237