



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	6426/2
Duration of Permit:	From 21 March 2015 to 21 March 2020
Permit Holder:	Southern Gold Limited

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

Mining Lease 25/162
Mining Lease 25/234
Mining Lease 25/333
Miscellaneous Licence 25/43
Miscellaneous Licence 25/48

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purposes of mineral production and associated infrastructure.

3. Area of clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 200 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 6426/2.

4. Type of clearing authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within three months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

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 - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

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*:

- (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.

7. Fauna management

Where active *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds have been identified in Figure 5 of the document titled 'Metals X Limited - Joint Venture Operation in the Bulong Area - Level 1 Vegetation, Flora and Fauna Assessment, March 2015', the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 100 metres of the identified *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds, unless approved by the CEO.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records to be kept

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

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.

9. 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 8 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 21 March 2020, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(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 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 declared pest under the section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in the Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings 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

3 September 2015