



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6518/1
Permit Holder:	HBJ Minerals Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	18 July 2015 to 18 July 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 road construction.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 31 on Deposited Plan 203388, Emu Flat

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 4 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6518/1.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. Avoid, minimise etc 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:

- 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 pursuant to 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 *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- Restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

DEFINITIONS

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

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 Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Jane Clarkson
MANAGER CLEARING REGULATION

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

18 June 2015

Plan 6518/1



Legend

-  Cadastre
-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority



1:9,054

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Jane Clarkson Date 18.6.15

Jane 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.: 6518/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: HBJ Minerals Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 31 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 203388, EMU FLAT
Local Government Authority: KALGOORLIE-BOULDER, CITY OF
DER Region: Goldfields
Localities: BULONG

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
4		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 18 June 2015

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard Vegetation Association 468 is described as Medium woodland; salmon gum & goldfields blackbutt (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The proposed clearing of 4 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 31 on Deposited Plan 203388, Emu Flat, is for the purpose of constructing a haul road, connecting the Cannon Gold Resource to Mt Monger Road.	Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994). To Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely /almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	A Level 1 Vegetation, Flora and Fauna Assessment of the larger project area undertaken by GHD (2015) identified one vegetation type within the application area, this being Eucalyptus lesouefii woodland. The vegetation ranges from very good (Keighery, 1994) to completely degraded in condition, with the majority of the vegetation in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (GHD, 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The proposed clearing of four hectares of native vegetation within Lot 31 on Deposited Plan 203388, Emu Flat, is for the purpose of constructing a haul road, connecting the Cannon Gold Resource to Mt Monger Road. The area under application comprises a small portion of this project. A Level 1 Vegetation, Flora and Fauna Assessment of the larger project area identified one vegetation type within the application area, this being Eucalyptus lesouefii woodland (GHD, 2015). The vegetation ranges from very good to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) in condition, with the majority of the vegetation in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (GHD, 2015).

Several priority flora species have been mapped within the local area (20 kilometre radius). The closest of these is a Priority 1 species mapped at two locations approximately 6.3 kilometres and 9.9 kilometres north west of the application area. A flora survey of the application area did not identify this species or any other priority flora within the application area (GHD, 2015).

There are no threatened or priority ecological communities or rare flora mapped with the local area, and the flora survey did not identify any of these on site (GHD, 2015).

A survey of the larger project area did not identify any fauna of conservation significance, however evidence of malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) activity, in the form of two active and four old malleefowl mounds was recorded within the survey area (GHD, 2015). The closest of these mounds was located approximately two kilometres from the current application area and it is unlikely that the vegetation under application constitutes significant habitat for this species.

The City of Kalgoorlie - Boulder retains approximately 99.8 per cent of its pre-European vegetation (Government of Western Australia, 2013), and there are extensive areas of undisturbed vegetation surrounding the application, therefore the vegetation under application is not likely to provide significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The Coolgardie Bioregion, City of Kalgoorlie - Boulder and mapped Beard Vegetation Association (468) retain approximately 98, 99.8, and 98.6 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2013). These are all considerably greater than the abovementioned 30 per cent threshold, therefore the proposed clearing is not considered to be within an area that has been extensively cleared.

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands mapped within the application area, and no vegetation associated with a watercourse, wetland or drainage system was recorded within a survey encompassing the application area (GHD, 2015).

The soils within the application area have been mapped by Northcote et al (1960-68) as alkaline red earths with limestone or limestone nodules at shallow depths on gently sloping slightly concave plains with low gentle rises. Associated are clay plains flanking rocky outcrops. Given the relatively small size of the application area, extensively vegetated surrounding area and lack of wetlands or watercourses on site, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in water or wind erosion causing appreciable land degradation. Similarly, the proposed clearing is unlikely to exacerbate flooding, or result in the deterioration of surface water or ground water.

The closest conservation area to the vegetation under application is Lakeside Timber Reserve located approximately 6.2 kilometres north west. Given the distance to this reserve, and extensive vegetation surrounding the reserve, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on this area.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- GHD (2015)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Keighery (1994)
- Northcote et al. (1960-68)

GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed May 2015)
- Hydrography

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

There have been no submissions received from the public in response to the proposed clearing.

The application area is zoned as a railway under the town planning scheme.

The application area is not within any Aboriginal Sites of Significance.

Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- GHD (2015) Level 1 Vegetation, Flora and Fauna Assessment. Metals X Limited, Joint Venture Operation in the Bulong Area. Additional information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6518/1. DER Ref A891814.
- Government of Western Australia (2013) 2013 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2013. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.
- 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.
- 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.