

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number: CPS 6940/3

Permit type: Purpose permit

Applicant name: Avoca Mining Pty Ltd

Application received: 19 July 2025

Application area: 1.5 hectares of native vegetation

Purpose of clearing: Constructing a turnoff into a mine haul road

Method of clearing: Mechanical

Property: Coolgardie- Esperance Highway Road Reserve (PIN 11685593)

Location (LGA area/s): Shire of Dundas

Localities (suburb/s): Dundas

1.2. Description of clearing activities

This amendment of 6940/2 is to extend the permit duration by two years, until 21 May 2028, to allow for time if the mine site becomes active. (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). It is noted that no modifications to the clearing footprint or approved clearing area have been proposed.

The proposed extent and purpose of clearing is unchanged from CPS 6940/2, which allowed for the clearing of 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within Coolgardie-Esperance Highway Road Reserve (PIN 11685593), for the purpose of constructing a turnoff into a mine haul (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (the Department's) records indicate that no native vegetation has been cleared under CPS 6940/2 to date.

1.3. Decision on application

Decision: Granted

Decision date: 13 October 2025

Decision area: 1.5 hectares of native vegetation, as depicted in Section 1.5, below.

1.4. Reasons for decision

On the 20 May 2021, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the Department) determined to grant Avoca Mining Pty Ltd an amendment for CPS 6940/2 for the proposed clearing of 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the Shire of Dundas for the construction of a turnoff into a mine haul road.

This clearing permit amendment application was submitted, accepted, assessed and determined in accordance with sections 51E and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The Department advertised the application for 28 days and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment.

After consideration of current available information, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed extension of the period in which clearing is authorised is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment and the assessment against the clearing principles did not changed significantly from the assessment outlined in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6940/2.

The Delegated Officer has taken the above matters into consideration and decided to grant an amended clearing permit with no change to permit conditions.

1.5. Site map

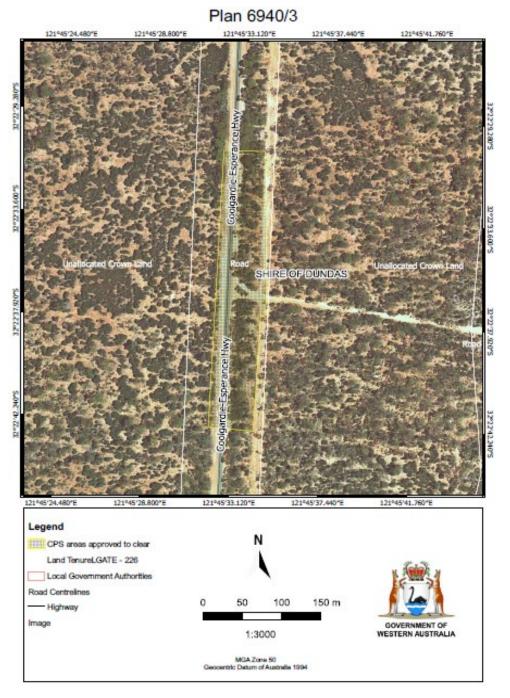


Figure 1 Map of the application area

The area crosshatched yellow indicates the area authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

2 Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the *Environmental Protection* (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (see Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity.

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA) (BC Act)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation (DER, December 2013)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, October 2019)

3 Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance, minimisation and mitigation measures

The avoidance and minimisation measures proposed by the applicant have not changed and can be found in the Decision Report for CPS 6940/2.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

A review of current environmental information identified that the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed from Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6940/2.

Given the above, the Delegated Officer considered that the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values, also remains unchanged from the original assessment and can be found within Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6940/2.

End

H.1. References

Avoca Mining Pty Ltd (2025) Clearing permit application CPS 6940/3, received 19 July 2025 (DWER Ref: DER2016/000230-1).

Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2013). *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation*. Perth. Available from: https://www.der.wa.gov.au/images/documents/your-environment/native-vegetation/Guidelines/Guide2 assessment native veg.pdf.

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2019). *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits*. Joondalup. Available from: https://dwer.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Procedure Native vegetation clearing permits v1.PDF.

Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) (2025). Purpose permit and decision report: CPS 6940/2. Available from Index of /permit/6940