



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 6940/1
Permit Holder: Avoca Mining Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit: 21 May 2016 to 21 May 2021

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 constructing a turnoff into a mine haul road.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Coolgardie – Esperance Highway road reserve (PIN 11685593), Dundas

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 6940/1.

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:

- (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

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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

DEFINITIONS

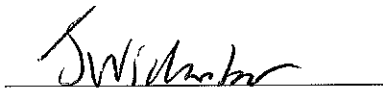
The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

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 Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

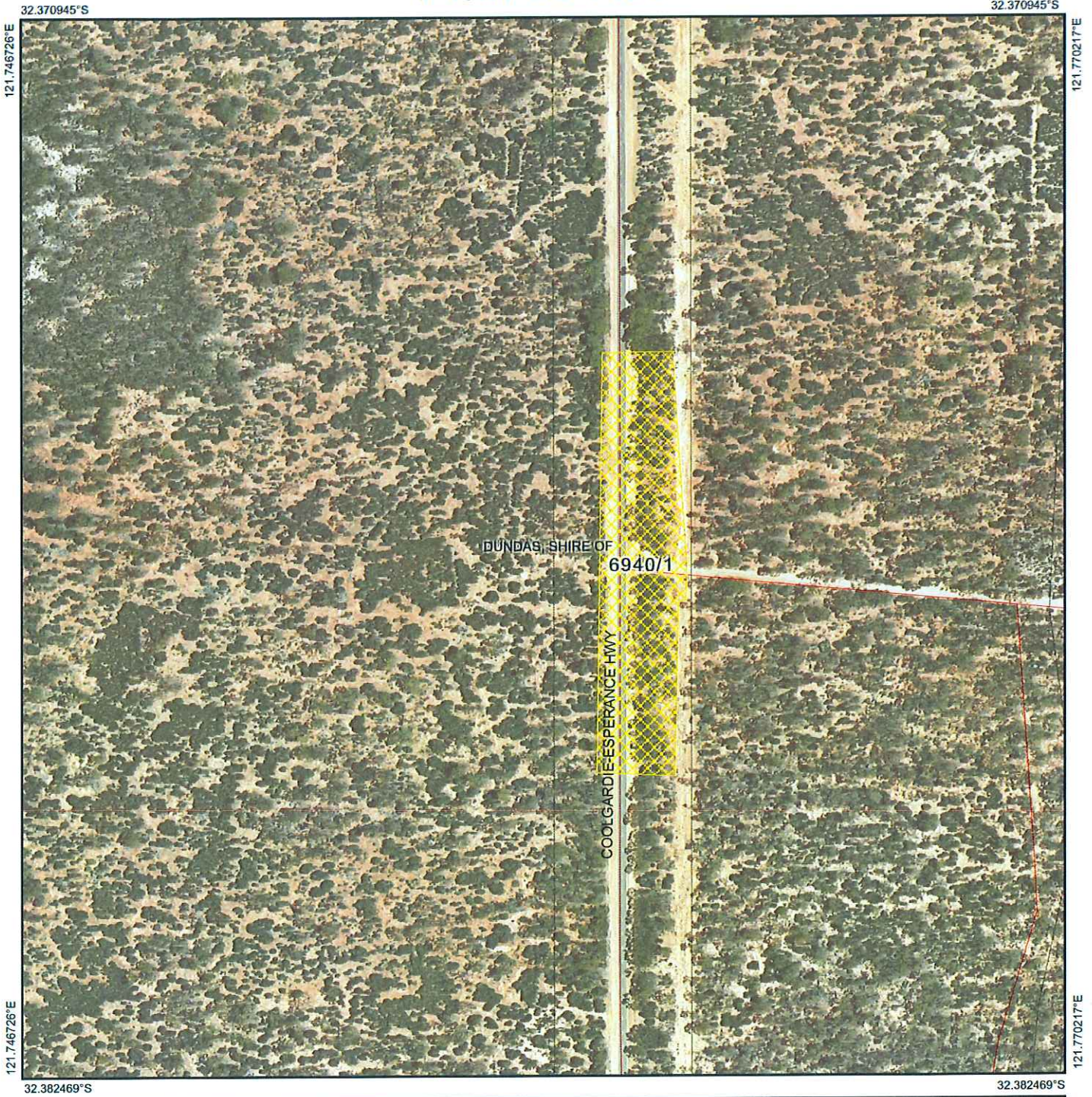


James Widenbar
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

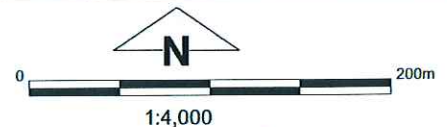
21 April 2016

Plan 6940/1



Legend

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



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

James Widenbar Date *21/11/2016*
 James Widenbar

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



GOVERNMENT OF
 WESTERN AUSTRALIA
 WA Crown Copyright 2016



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6940/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Avoca Mining Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: COOLGARDIE – ESPERANCE HIGHWAY ROAD RESERVE (PIN 11685593), DUNDAS
Local Government Authority: DUNDAS, SHIRE OF
DER Region: GOLDFIELDS
DPaW District: ESPERANCE
Localities: DUNDAS

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 21 April 2016
Reasons for Decision: The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and it has been concluded that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Clearing of the vegetation under application may impact the environmental values of adjacent native vegetation through the introduction or spread of weeds. Weed management measures will minimise impacts to adjacent native vegetation.

Through assessment it has been determined that the clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. State policies and other relevant policies have been taken into consideration in the decision to grant a clearing permit.

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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 3106 is described as medium woodland; salmon gum and Dundas blackbutt (Shepherd et al. 2001).	The clearing of 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within Coolgardie-Esperance Highway road reserve (PIN 11685593), Dundas, for the purpose of constructing a turnoff into a mine haul road.	Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994). To Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994).	The condition of the vegetation was determined by aerial imagery.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application to clear up to 1.5 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a turnoff into a mine haul road is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation proposed to be cleared is located between the Kambalda to Esperance Gas Pipeline and the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway and is considered to be in good to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition.

The local area surrounding the application is highly vegetated (retaining approximately 99 per cent native vegetation). The area under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 3106 which retains approximately 98 per cent of its pre-European extent (Government of Western Australia 2014).

Given the extent of native vegetation in the local area and relatively small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, priority or threatened ecological communities, conservation reserves within the local area or contain significant fauna habitat and is not likely to be classified as clearing a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

As no wetlands or watercourses are mapped within the application area, and the area surrounding the application is highly vegetated, clearing the vegetation under application is not likely to impact on riparian vegetation, contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water or surface water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

The proposed clearing may impact the adjacent vegetation through the spread of weeds as an indirect consequence of the clearing. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating the risk of introduction or spread of invasive species into adjacent remnant vegetation.

Given the above, clearing the vegetation under application is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology References:
Government of Western Australia (2014)
Keighery (1994)
GIS Databases:
- Hydrography, Hierarchy
- Hydrography, Linear
- Pre European vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets accessed April 2016
- Virtual mosaic

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments There are no Aboriginal Sites of Significance mapped within the application area.

No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal Sites Register System

4. References

Government of Western Australia (2014) 2014 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2014. 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.

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.