

# Surrender Decision Report

## 1 Application details and outcome

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	7348/2
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Aurumin Mt Dimer Pty Ltd
Application received:	27 September 2024
Application area:	21.35 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Tailings Storage Facility
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Property:	Mining Lease 77/427
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Yilgarn
Colloquial name:	Mt Dimer Project

### 1.2. Description of clearing activities

Clearing permit CPS 7348/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (now the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety) on 5 January 2017 and was valid from 28 January 2017 to 31 January 2022. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 21.35 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 29.308 hectares, for the purpose of a tailings storage facility (TSF).

CPS 7348/2 was granted on 6 May 2021, amending the permit to increase the permit boundary, extend the permit duration and update the permit holder name.

The permit holder applied to surrender clearing permit CPS 7348/2 on 27 September 2024.

The application to surrender the clearing permit has been made as the Mt Dimer Project and relevant tenure was acquired by Beacon Mining Pty Ltd (Aurumin, 2024).

### 1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Surrendered
Decision date:	10 April 2025
Decision area:	21.35 hectares of native vegetation

### 1.4. Reasons for decision

In making the decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for:

- a review of the permit holder's compliance with conditions of clearing permit CPS 6326/2 (Section 2.1)
- other matters considered relevant to the decision (Section 2.2).

The application to surrender was submitted, accepted and determined in accordance with section 51MA of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

After consideration of the above information, the Delegated Officer decided to accept the surrender of clearing permit CPS 7348/2.

## 1.5. Site map



**Figure 1.** Map of the application area. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas which have been surrendered.

## 2 Assessment of surrender

### 2.1. Review of compliance with clearing permit conditions

On 5 November 2024, the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (the department) reviewed the annual clearing reports for clearing permit CPS 7348/2. The department identified that the permit holder had cleared approximately 1.76 hectares of native vegetation from 5 April 2017 to 16 May 2017 (Aurumin, 2023; Beacon, 2024; Golden Iron, 2017).

A review of aerial imagery and shapefiles provided by the Permit Holder showed that 1.63 hectares of this clearing was outside of the clearing permit boundary. This clearing outside of the permit boundary was undertaken in order to meet the requirements of the Direction to Modify (DTM) issued by the department under the *Mining Act 1978* on 17 August 2016 (DMP, 2016). The DTM required the Permit Holder to rectify tailings that had migrated out of the tailings storage facility (TSF) and restore it back into the TSF. A DTM Completion Report was submitted to the department in July 2017 and the requirements of the DTM were determined to be complete, therefore the department closed the DTM on 9 August 2017 (DMP, 2017; Povey, 2017).

In addition, an inspection of the clearing permit CPS 7348/1 was conducted on 5 April 2018 as a result of the DTM, and the inspection determined that no further action was required under Part V Division 2 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (DMIRS, 2018).

The department's review of the permit holder's requirements under clearing permit CPS 7348/2 did not identify any other non-compliance with the clearing permit conditions (Table 1).

**Table 1:** Compliance verification with the clearing permit conditions listed under CPS 7348/2.

CPS 7348/2 Clearing authorised under the following conditions	Compliance comments
<p><b>5. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing</b></p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;</li> <li>(b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and</li> <li>(c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.</li> </ul>	<p>The permit holder has cleared 1.76 hectares for the purpose of rectifying the TSF (Aurumin, 2023). As the clearing completed was only for this purpose the permit holder is compliant with this condition (Aurumin, 2023; Beacon, 2024; Golden Iron, 2017).</p>
<p><b>6. Weed control</b></p> <p>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 <i>weeds</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;</li> <li>(b) ensure that no known dieback or weed-affected soil, mulch, fill or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and</li> <li>(c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.</li> </ul>	<p>The permit holder confirms that the company and contractors complied with the Permit condition, by following the Golden Iron Weed Control and Management Plan during clearing works (Golden Iron, 2017).</p>
<p><b>7. Fauna Management</b></p> <p>Where clearing authorised under this Permit is to occur between 1 September and 31 January, the Permit Holder shall;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an environmental specialist to conduct an inspection of the area to be cleared to identify active (in use) Malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>) mounds</li> <li>(b) where an active (in use) Malleefowl mound is identified under Condition 7a of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the mound, during the months of September through to January, unless first approved by the CEO.</li> </ul>	<p>No clearing occurred between 1 September and 31 January (Aurumin, 2023; Beacon, 2024; Golden Iron, 2017). The permit holder is compliant with this condition.</p>
<p><b>8. Reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the CEO 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.</li> <li>(b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO by 31 July of each year.</li> <li>(c) Prior to 31 January 2026, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(a) or 9(b) of this Permit.</li> </ul>	<p>The permit holder submitted annual clearing permit reports in 2017, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. These reports included the records required under Condition 8 of this Permit (Aurumin, 2021; Aurumin, 2022; Aurumin, 2023; Beacon, 2024; Golden Iron, 2017).</p> <p>The permit holder confirmed that in all other periods under the Permit, no clearing occurred.</p> <p>The permit holder is compliant with this condition.</p>

## 2.2. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The received surrender application was advertised on 13 December 2024 by the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.

**End**

## Appendix A. References

- Aurumin Mt Dimer Pty Ltd (Aurumin) (2021) Annual clearing report for CPS 7348/2. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 31 May 2021.
- Aurumin Mt Dimer Pty Ltd (Aurumin) (2022) Annual clearing report for CPS 7348/2. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 5 July 2022.
- Aurumin Mt Dimer Pty Ltd (Aurumin) (2023) Annual clearing report for CPS 7348/2. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 11 July 2023.
- Aurumin Mt Dimer Pty Ltd (Aurumin) (2024) Application to surrender a clearing permit. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 27 September 2024.
- Beacon Minerals Ltd (Beacon) (2024) Annual clearing report for CPS 7348/2. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 29 July 2024.
- Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) (2016) Direction to modify a mining operation: containment of tailings located on M77/427 (holder Golden Iron Resources Ltd). Signed 17 August 2016.
- Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) (2017) Direction to modify completion of required actions, Mining Lease 77/427, Mt Dimer (J01033). Signed 9 August 2017.
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) (2018) Inspection report for CPS 7348/1. Printed 13 July 2018.
- Golden Iron Resources Ltd (Golden Iron) (2017) Annual clearing report for CPS 7348/2. Prepared for the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, 27 July 2017.
- Povey, G (2017) Direction to modify completion report: Mt Dimer Project. Prepared for Golden Iron Resources Ltd, 26 May 2017.