



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit Number:</b>	7356/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 11 February 2017 to 31 December 2027
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	GMA Garnet Pty Ltd

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 70/926
- 2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**  
Clearing for the purpose of mineral production.
- 3. Area of Clearing**  
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 29 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7356/1.
- 4. Staged Clearing**  
The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised begins within 3 months of the 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*:
  - 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.

## 7. Offsets

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit within the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 7356/1, the Permit Holder must submit to the *CEO* for approval an *offset proposal* prepared in accordance with Condition 7(b) of this Permit to address the vegetation reduction of Beard Vegetation Association 371.
- (b) In determining the *offset* to be implemented with respect to a particular area of native vegetation proposed to be cleared under this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the *offset* principles contained in Condition 7(c) of this Permit.
- (c) For the purpose of this condition, the *offset* principles are as follows:
  - (i) *direct offsets* should directly counterbalance the loss of the native vegetation;
  - (ii) *indirect offsets* should complement and enhance the direct offset;
  - (iii) *offsets* are implemented only once all avenues to avoid, minimise, rectify or reduce environmental impacts have been exhausted;
  - (iv) the environmental values, habitat, species, *ecological community*, physical area, ecosystem, landscape, and hydrology of the *offset* should be the same as, or better than, that of the area of native vegetation being *offset*;
  - (v) a ratio greater than 1:1 should be applied to the size of the area of native vegetation that is offset to compensate for the risk that the *offset* may fail;
  - (vi) *offsets* must entail a robust and consistent assessment process;
  - (vii) in determining an appropriate offset, consideration should be given to ecosystem function, rarity and type of *ecological community*, *vegetation condition*, habitat quality and area of native vegetation cleared;
  - (viii) the *offset* should either result in no net loss of native vegetation, or lead to a net gain in native vegetation and improve the condition of the natural environment;
  - (ix) *offsets* must satisfy all statutory requirements;
  - (x) *offsets* must be clearly defined, documented and audited;
  - (xi) *offsets* must ensure a long-term (10-30 year) benefit; and
  - (xii) an *environmental specialist* must be involved in the design, assessment and monitoring of *offsets*.
- (d) Clearing within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7356/1 shall not commence until the *offset proposal* prepared and submitted in accordance with Condition 7(a) is approved by the *CEO*.
- (e) The Permit Holder must implement the *offset proposal* approved under Condition 7(d).
- (f) The implementation of the approved *offset proposal* must be completed by 31 December 2027.
- (g) The *offset proposal* must include a *direct offset*, timing for implementation of the *offset proposal* and may additionally include *indirect offsets*.
- (h) If it is necessary to modify an *offset proposal* approved under Condition 7(d), the Permit Holder must submit the modified *offset proposal* to the *CEO*.
- (i) A modified *offset proposal* must not be implemented until approved by the *CEO*.
- (j) An approved modified *offset proposal* supersedes any previous offset proposal.

### **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 31 December 2027, 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*;

*direct offset/s* has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9: Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

*ecological community/ies* means a naturally occurring biological assemblage that occurs in a particular type of habitat (English and Blythe, 1997; 1999);

*environmental specialist* means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable environmental specialist;

*fill* means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

*indirect offset/s* has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Government of Western Australia's *WA Environmental Offsets Policy*, September 2011;

*Keighery scale* means the vegetation condition scale described in *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community (1994)* as developed by B.J. Keighery and published by the Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia;

*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;

*offset/s* means an offset required to be implemented under Condition 7 of this Permit;

*offset proposal* means an *offset* determined by the Permit Holder in accordance with Condition 7 of this Permit;

*vegetation condition* means the rating given to native vegetation using the *Keighery scale* and refers to the degree of change in the structure, density and species present in the particular vegetation in comparison to undisturbed vegetation of the same type;

*weed/s* means any plant -

- (a) that is declared under the 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.



---

**Dan Machin** | Acting Director Operations  
Operations, Environment  
19 January 2017

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