

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: 7702/1

Duration of Permit: From 25 November 2017 to 30 November 2022

Permit Holder: NBT Metals 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 27/485 Miscellaneous Licence 27/88

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 461.5 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7702/1.

4. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within three months of the authorised 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*:

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

7. Vegetation management – wetlands and watercourses

- (a) where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* or *wetland* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.

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8. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Area shall be inspected by an *environmental specialist* who shall identify *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds;
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide, to the *CEO* the location of each malleefowl mound, 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; and
- (c) Where *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds are identified under Condition 8(a), the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing of Leipoa ocellata (Malleefowl) mounds occurs, unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no clearing within 50 metres of identified *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. 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.

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety 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 9 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 30 November 2022, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 10(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 Water and Environmental Regulation or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

environmental specialist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and 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;

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;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

watercourse has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914;

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.

wetland/s means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.

Dan Machin | Acting Director Operations

Operations

02 November 2017

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