

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7925/2
Permit Holder:	Yandin Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	From 22 February 2019 to 28 July 2024

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 construction of a wind farm.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done Lot 4 on Deposited Plan 67003, Cataby;

Lot 1002 on Plan 22459, Dandaragan; Lot M 2080 on Plan 6269, Dandaragan; Lot 301 on Deposited Plan 35381, Dandaragan; Lot 3826 on Deposited Plan 209670, Yathroo; Lot 3829 on Deposited Plan 209670, Yathroo; Lot 3827 on Deposited Plan 209670, Yathroo; Lot 302 on Deposited Plan 35381, Dandaragan; Lot M 1127 on Diagram 4945, Dandaragan; Lot M 1948 on Diagram 13135, Yathroo; Lot 9 on Plan 23599, Dandaragan: Lot 311 on Deposited Plan 245072, Dandaragan; Lot 529 on Deposited Plan 246489, Dandaragan; Lot 875 on Deposited Plan 247940, Dandaragan; Lot 111 on Deposited Plan 247871, Dandaragan; Lot M 454 on Plan 3049, Dandaragan; Lot M 1131 on Diagram 4843. Dandaragan: Lot M 2068 on Diagram 15361, Yathroo; Lot M 455 on Plan 3049, Dandaragan: Lot 4258 on Deposited Plan 209671, Mimegarra (Un-named road reserve (PIN 1226157)) Lot 411 on Plan 245130, Dandaragan; Closed road reserve (PIN 580159), Dandaragan; Closed road reserve (PIN 580127), Dandaragan; Un-named road reserve (PIN 11674286), Dandaragan; Un-named road reserve (PIN 11674284), Yathroo; Un-named road reserve (PIN 1226160), Yathroo; Un-named road reserve (PIN 1226220), Dandaragan; Un-named road reserve (PIN 1226214), Yathroo; Un-named road reserve (PIN 1226159), Dandaragan; Un-named road reserve (PIN 1353716), Yathroo; and Un-named road reserve (PIN 11674285), Dandaragan. Lot 3919 on Plan 209671, Cataby (Native Dog Swamp Nature Reserve (C27993))

Un-named road reserve (PIN 1225158), Dandaragan Un-named road reserve (PIN 1226154), Dandaragan

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 4 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7925/2a.

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 and reduce the impacts and extent of 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. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing of *habitat tree(s)* within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7925/2a, a *fauna specialist* shall inspect *habitat tree(s)* for evidence of use by Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*).
- (b) Where evidence of use by Carnaby's cockatoo is identified under condition 6(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing of, or within 10 metres of, identified *habitat tree(s)* occurs.

7. Flora management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing within the areas cross-hatched red on attached Plan 7925/2b, 7925/2c, and 7925/2d authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to inspect those areas for the presence of threatened flora listed in the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act)* within the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* and *priority flora* in accordance with the Environmental Protection Authority's *Technical Guidance Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (December 2016).
- (b) Where threatened flora or *priority flora* are identified in relation to condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing of, or within 50 metres of, identified threatened flora occurs; and
 - (ii) no clearing of, or within 30 metres of, identified *priority flora* occurs.

8. Dieback and weed management

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* and *dieback*:

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

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records must be kept

- The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:
- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
 - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) 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;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
 - (v) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 5 of this Permit;
 - (vi) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *dieback* and *weeds* in accordance with condition 8 of this Permit.
- (b) In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 6 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of each *habitat tree(s)* identified, 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
 - (ii) a copy of the fauna specialist's report.
- (c) In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 7 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of each threatened flora or *priority flora* species 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 species name of each threatened flora or *priority flora* species identified; and
 - (iii) a copy of the botanists flora survey report and complete Metadata and Licensing Statement in accordance with the EPA's *Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments (IBSA).*

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 9 of this Permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 1 July 2024, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO 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:

botanist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

dry conditions means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

fauna specialist: means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*;

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

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater, that contains or has the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna;

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;

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

weed/s means any plant -

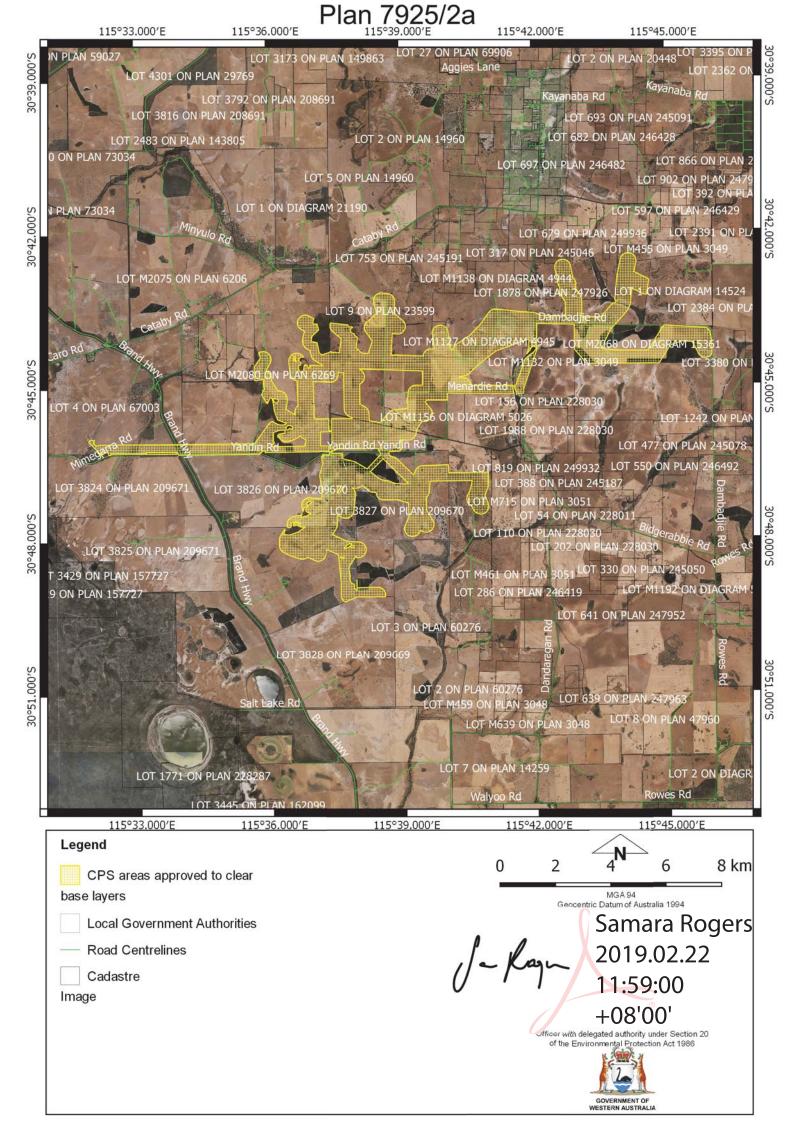
- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

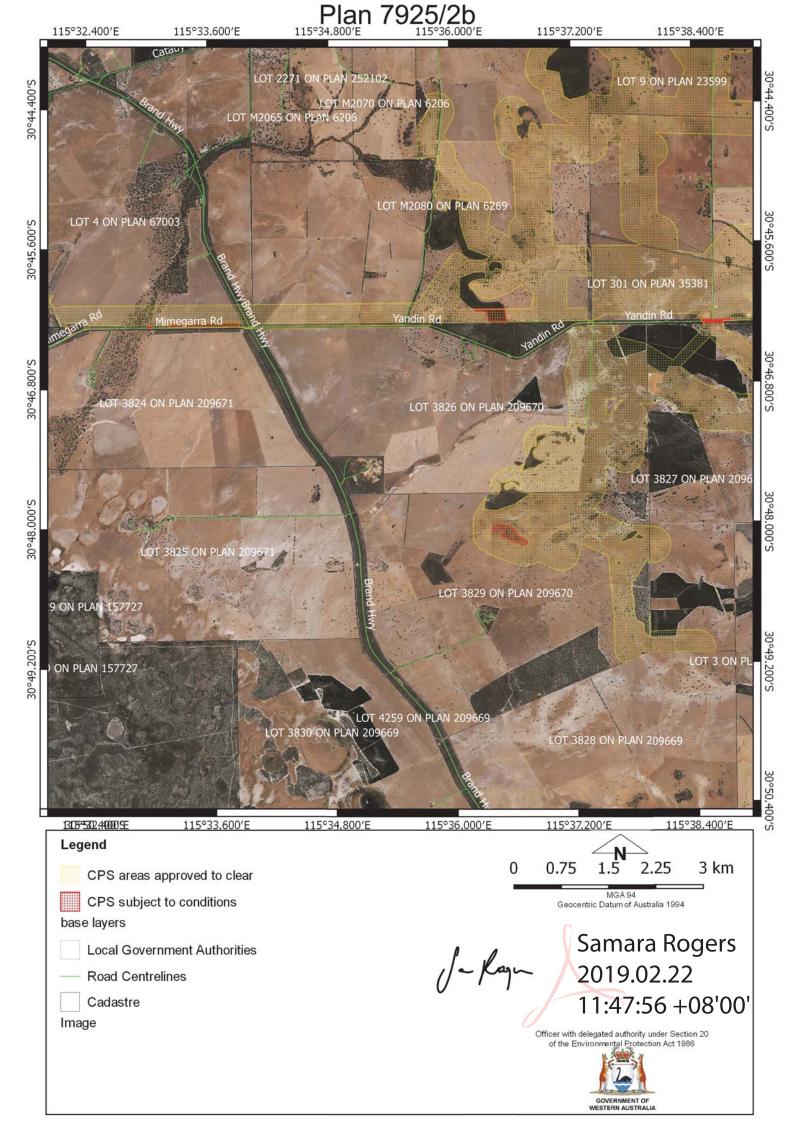
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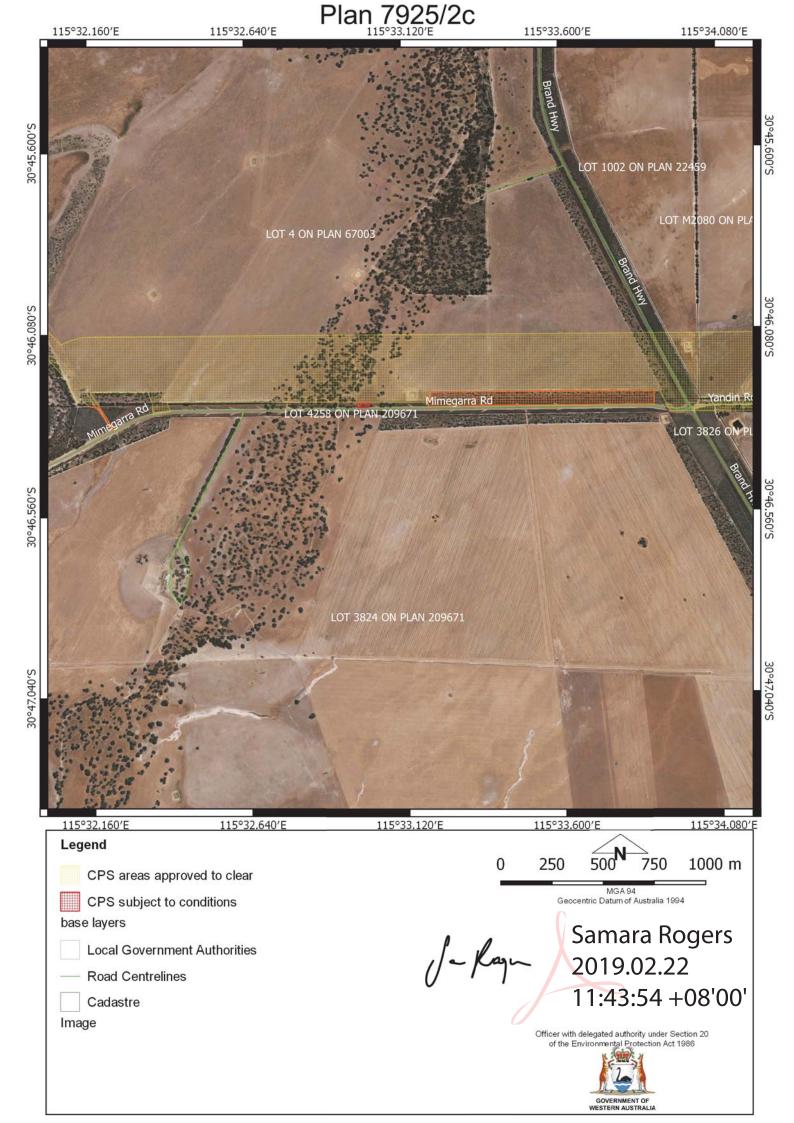
Samara Rogers MANAGER NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

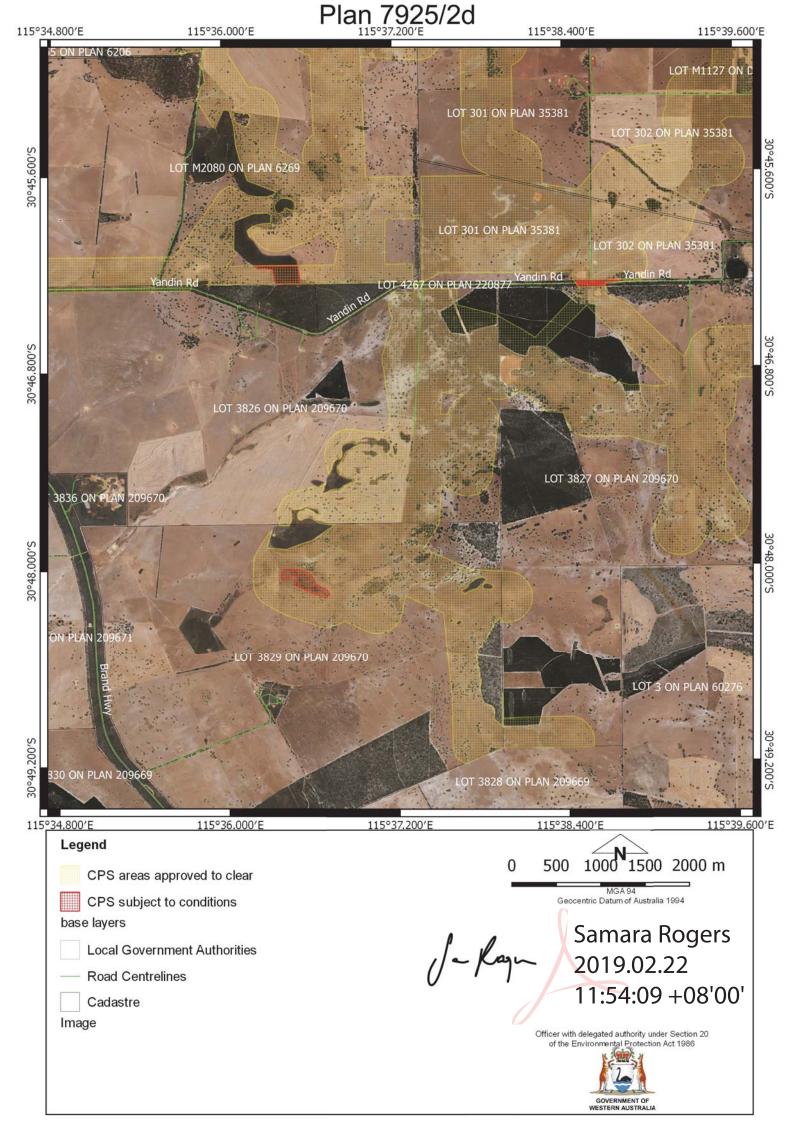
Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

22 February 2019











1. Application details

1.1. Permit application deta	ils	
Permit application No.:	7925/2	
Permit type:	Purpose Permit	
1.2. Applicant details		
Applicant's name:	Yandin Wind Farm Pty Ltd	
Application received date:	2 November 2018	
1.3. Property details		
Property:	LOT 4258 ON PLAN 209671, MIMEGA	RRA
. ,	LOT 4 ON PLAN 67003, CATABY	
	ROAD RESERVE - 1226154, DANDAR	
	ROAD RESERVE - 1226158, MIMEGA	
	ROAD RESERVE - 11674286, DANDA ROAD RESERVE - 11674285, DANDA	
	ROAD RESERVE - 11674284, YATHRO	
	ROAD RESERVE - 1353716, YATHRO	
	CLOSED ROAD, DANDARAGAN	
	ROAD RESERVE - 1226159, DANDAR	
	ROAD RESERVE - 1226160, YATHRO	
	ROAD RESERVE - 1226220, DANDAR ROAD RESERVE - 1226214, YATHRO	
	LOT 1002 ON PLAN 22459, DANDARA	
	LOT 111 ON PLAN 247871, DANDARA	
	LOT 301 ON PLAN 35381, DANDARAG	
	LOT 302 ON PLAN 35381, DANDARAG	
	LOT 311 ON PLAN 245072, DANDARA LOT 3826 ON PLAN 209670, YATHRO	
	LOT 3827 ON PLAN 209670, YATHRO	
	LOT 3828 ON PLAN 209669, YATHRO	
	LOT 3829 ON PLAN 209670, YATHRO	0
	LOT 3835 ON PLAN 186964, DANDAR	AGAN
	LOT 3919 ON PLAN 209671, CATABY	ACAN
	LOT 4090 ON PLAN 186964, DANDAR LOT 411 ON PLAN 245130, DANDARA	
	LOT 529 ON PLAN 246489, DANDARA	
	LOT 875 ON PLAN 247940, DANDARA	
	LOT 9 ON PLAN 23599, DANDARAGA	
	LOT M1127 ON DIAGRAM 4945, DANI	
	LOT M1128 ON DIAGRAM 4941, YATH LOT M1131 ON DIAGRAM 4843, DANI	
	LOT M1132 ON PLAN 3049, YATHRO	
	LOT M1153 ON DIAGRAM 5025, YATH	
	LOT M1156 ON DIAGRAM 5026, YATH	IROO
	LOT M1948 ON DIAGRAM 13135, YAT	
	LOT M2068 ON DIAGRAM 15361, YAT	
	LOT M2080 ON PLAN 6269, DANDARA LOT M454 ON PLAN 3049, DANDARA	
	LOT M455 ON PLAN 3049, DANDARA	
Local Government Authority:	DANDARAGAN, SHIRE OF	
Localities:	MIMEGARRA and DANDARAGAN and	CATABY and YATHROO
1.4. Application		
	s Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
Clearing Area (ha) No. Tree		

1.5. Decision on application	n
Decision on Permit Application: Decision Date:	Granted 22 February 2019
Reasons for Decision:	The application to amend Clearing Permit CPS 7925/1 was made to increase the application area by an additional 0.5 hectares. The amendment application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning and instruments and other matters in accordance with section 510 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (EP Act), and the Delegated Officer has concluded that the proposed assessment has not changed since the assessment for CPS 7925/1 for the originally applied area of 3.5 hectares.
	In determining to grant clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.
2. Site Information	
Clearing Description	The amendment application is for the proposed clearing of an additional area of 0.5 hectares of native vegetation within a 4,594.4 hectare clearing footprint, for the purpose of constructing a wind farm (Figure 1).
	As the specific location of the proposed clearing within the project footprint is not known, this assessment has been conducted on the basis of the project footprint (application area).
Vegetation Description	 The vegetation within the application area is mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations: 4: Medium woodland; <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (marri) and <i>Eucalyptus wandoo</i> (wandoo); 999: Shrublands; Melaleuca species heath; 1030: Medium woodland; <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river gum); 1031: Shrublands; scrub-heath <i>Banksia</i> species-<i>Calothamnus</i> species association with <i>Banksia prionotes</i> (acorn banksia) on limestone in the northern Swan Region; and 1035: Mosaic: Medium woodland; marri, wandoo, <i>Eucalyptus accedens</i> (powderbark wandoo)/shrublands; <i>Banksia</i> species heath (Shepherd et al., 2001).
Vegetation Condition	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact, disturbance affecting individual species and weeds are non-aggressive species (Keighery, 1994). To
Soils/Landform Type	 Completely Degraded: The Structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994). The landform and soil types within the application area are mapped as: Nylagarda System: alluvial plains and terraces of the Hill River and major creeks of the north coastal plain; brown deep sands and brown sandy earths predominate, with minor pale deep sand and saline wet soil; Bassendean System: Swan Coastal Plain from Busselton to Jurien; sand dunes and sandplains with pale deep sand, semi-wet and wet soil; Boothendarra System: subdued stripped lateritic plateau, undulating and gently undulating rises; sandy duplexes, pale deep sand, sandy and loamy gravels and minor clays; Dandaragan System: subdued dissected lateritic plateau, undulating low hills and rises with narrow alluvial plains; variable deep sands and sandy gravels plus minor earths, duplexes and clays; Rowes System: subdued partly dissected lateritic plateau, gently undulating plains and gently undulating to undulating rises; yellow and pale sand, sandy earth and sandy gravel; weathered sandstone; and Capitella System: subdued stripped lateritic plateau, undulating to gently undulating low rises with gently undulating plain including dunes; pale and yellow deep sands, sandy gravels, some duplex; from sandstones plus alluvial and aeolian deposits (Schoknecht et al 2004).
Comments	The local area is defined as 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area.

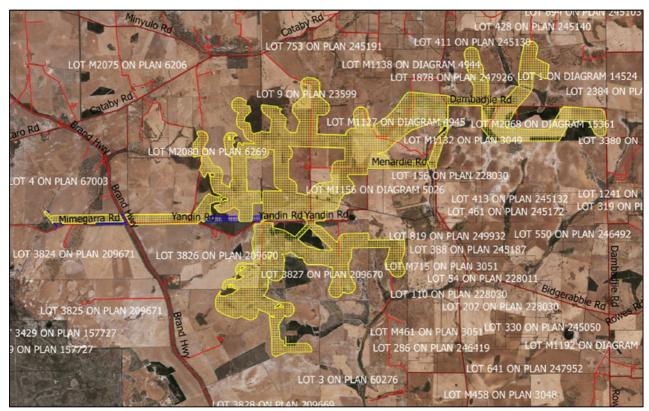


Figure 1: Application area. The additional area of 0.5 hectares is hatched in blue. Area hatched in yellow is approved under Clearing Permit CPS 7925/1.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The amendment is to include an additional area of 0.5 hectares to the permit, in order to construct the Yandin Wind Farm. The already approved area of 3.5 hectares has not been reassessed and an assessment of this area can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report 7925/1.

The application area in the following assessment therefore refers only to the additional 0.5 hectares of native vegetation proposed for clearing, as indicated in the area cross hatched in blue in Figure 1.

Upon review of the available databases and flora and vegetation survey undertaken in October 2018 (Ecologia Environment, 2018), one additional Priority flora species was identified to occur within the application area. This species is *Persoonia filifolia* (Priority 3). Advice provided by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2019), indicated that due to a targeted flora survey not being undertaken, the impact on this flora species remains unclear. Therefore a pre-clearing conservation significant flora targeted survey conditioned on the permit is recommended. A flora management condition requiring the Permit Holder to undertake targeted flora surveys prior to clearing, and to ensure that no clearing of, or within 50 meters of threatened flora and within 30 metres of priority flora will mitigate any potential or indirect impacts to conservation significant flora.

The application area falls within Native Dog Swamp Nature Reserve. This area is equivalent to 26 per cent of the additional application area. The proposed clearing may directly impact on this conservation area through the introduction or spread of weeds or dieback. The applicant has advised that the clearing footprint follows an existing track in order to minimise the clearing area (Yandin Wind Farm Pty Ltd, 2018). Weed and dieback management practices will assist in managing the risk of the spread or introduction of weeds and dieback into the surrounding nature reserve.

A review of current environmental information reveals no new additional information in terms of the remaining clearing principles (b, c, d, e, f, g, I, j). Given the above, the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 7925/1.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2019) advised that due to the lack of a targeted survey, a targeted survey for conservation significant flora is required. The targeted survey should focus on conservation significant taxa known to occur in similar habitat in the local area (including, but not limited to, the taxa noted above and in the previous assessment CPS 7925/1). The proponent should request a search of the department's flora databases prior to the targeted survey to ensure that the most up to date data are used to support the targeted searched. The flora surveys should be appropriately timed to detect the presence of targeted conservation significant taxa and be conducted by a suitably qualified botanist (DBCA, 2019).

The clearing permit application to amend was advertised on the DWER website on 1 December 2018 with a 14 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2012) EPBC Act referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities, Canberra.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2007-) NatureMap. https://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/. Accessed February 2018.Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2017) Fauna Profile - Chuditch *Dasyurus geoffroii*. Available from: <u>https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/plants-</u> animals/animals/animal_profiles/chuditch_fauna_profile.pdf.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2019) Species and Communities advised received 5 February 2019 (DWER A1765917).
- Department of Environment and Conservation (2009) Reptile Fauna of the Gnangara Sustainability Strategy Study Area: A Literature Review.
- Department of Environment and Conservation (2012) Fauna Profiles Brush-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*). Department of Environment Conservation. Western Australia
- Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) (2018a) The Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) in Threatened Species and Ecological Communities Publications, Department of the Environment and Energy, Canberra. Available from: http://www.environment.gov.au/resource/peregrine-falcon-falco-peregrinus.
- Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) (2018b) *Merops ornatus* in Species Profile and Threats Database, Department of the Environment and Energy, Canberra. Available from: http://www.environment.gov.au/cgibin/sprat/public/sprat.pl.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2017). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. URL: https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/ (accessed 24 April 2018).
- Ecologia Environment Pty Ltd (Ecologia Environment) (2017) Wind Prospect Pty Ltd Yandin Wind Farm Flora, Vegetation and Avifauna Assessment. Report prepared for Wind Prospect Pty Ltd, November 2017 (DWER ref. A1582898).
- Ecologia Environment Pty Ltd (Ecologia Environment) (2018) Wind Prospect Pty Ltd Yandin Wind Farm Supplementary Flora and Vegetation Survey. Report prepared for Wind Prospect Pty Ltd, December 2018 (DWER A1765913).
- Government of Western Australia. (2018). 2017 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of December 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Available from: https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Northcote, K.H. with Beckmann, G.G., Bettenay, E., Churchward, H.M., van Dijk, D.C., Dimmock, G.M., Hubble, G.D., Isbell, R.F., McArthur, W.M., Murtha, G.G., Nicolls, K.D., Paton, T.R., Thompson, C.H., Webb, A.A. and Wright, M.J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- Schoknecht, N., Tille, P. and Purdie, B. (2004) Soil-landscape mapping in South-Western Australia Overview of Methodology and outputs' Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture.
- 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.
- Shire of Dandaragan (2018) Direct interest comment received in relation to clearing permit CPS 7925/1, received 31 January 2018 (DWER ref. A1614210).
- Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) (2016). Approved Conservation Advice (incorporating listing advice) for the Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain ecological community. Canberra: Department of the Environment and Energy. Available from: http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/communities/pubs/131-conservation-advice.pdf.

Yandin Wind Farm Pty Ltd (2018) Application Form Excerpt received 2 November 2018. DWER A1735087).