



## **CLEARING PERMIT**

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	8087/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 8 September 2018 to 7 September 2023
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Big Bell Gold Operations 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 20/17  
Mining Lease 20/21  
Mining Lease 20/22  
Mining Lease 20/78  
Mining Lease 20/99  
Mining Lease 20/171  
Mining Lease 20/192  
Mining Lease 20/202  
Mining Lease 20/252  
Mining Lease 20/354  
Mining Lease 21/7  
Mining Lease 21/14  
Mining Lease 21/44  
Mining Lease 21/49  
Mining Lease 21/65  
Mining Lease 21/75  
Mining Lease 21/89  
Mining Lease 21/96  
Miscellaneous Licence 20/21  
Miscellaneous Licence 20/40

#### **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 80 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow or shaded yellow on attached Plans 8087/1A and 8087/1B.

#### **4. Clearing not Authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation within the area shaded red on attached Plan 8087/1B.

#### **5. Staged Clearing**

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within 3 months of the clearing being undertaken.

## 6. 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

### 7. 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.

### 8. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds.
- (b) Where *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

### 9. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify habitat/*habitat tree(s)* suitable to be utilised by *Egernia stokesii badia* (Western Spiny-tailed Skink).
- (b) Prior to clearing, any habitat/*habitat tree(s)* identified by Condition 9(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in Condition 9(a).
- (c) Where fauna are identified in relation to Condition 9(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) no clearing of the identified habitat/*habitat tree(s)* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
  - (ii) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified habitat/*habitat tree(s)* unless first approved by the *CEO*.

### 10. Vegetation management – watercourse and drainage line surface flow

- (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.

## PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

### 11. 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.

## 12. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Directorate, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety by 1 October each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 11 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 7 September 2023, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Directorate, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 12(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*;

*fauna specialist* means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing 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, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;

*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;

*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 Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

*wetland* 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.



---

Daniel Endacott  
General Manager Environmental Compliance  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Directorate  
16 August 2018

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