



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	8176/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 29 December 2018 to 28 December 2023
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Northern Star Resources Limited

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 53/197  
Mining Lease 53/228  
Mining Lease 53/247  
Mining Lease 53/347  
Mining Lease 53/589

**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 186.3 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas shaded yellow or red on attached Plan 8176/1.

**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 3 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. Fauna management

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing within the area shaded red on attached Plan 8176/1, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake *clearance surveys* for the brush-tailed mulgara (*Dasyercus blythi*).
- (b) Where brush-tailed mulgara burrows are identified under Condition 7(a), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied.
- (c) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing within the area shaded red on attached Plan 8176/1, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any brush-tailed mulgara found under Condition 7(a) and 7(b) of this permit.
- (d) The Permit Holder shall engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery, at the time of clearing and alert machinery operators to avoid brush-tailed mulgara injury or mortality.
- (e) Where any brush-tailed mulgara are identified and relocated under Condition 7(a), 7(b), 7(c) and 7(d) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the *CEO*:
  - (i) the location of any evidence of brush-tailed mulgara 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 type of evidence recorded under Condition 7(e)(i) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
  - (iii) the location and date where any brush-tailed mulgara was relocated 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;
  - (iv) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated the brush-tailed mulgara under Condition 7(c); and
  - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the brush-tailed mulgara under Condition 7(c).

## 8. Vegetation management - watercourse

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing riparian vegetation.
- (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**

### 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 General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, 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 28 December 2023, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, 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*;

*clearance survey/s* means a search of immediate impact areas prior to clearing to locate fauna. The clearance survey should focus on locating burrows, recent foraging signs, fresh tracks and scats.

*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* or *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*;

*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*;

*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.

*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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Daniel Endacott  
General Manager Environmental Compliance  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
06 December 2018

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