



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8200/1  
File Number: DWERVT1458  
Duration of Permit: From 5 January 2019 to 5 January 2021

### PERMIT HOLDER

Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation t/a Synergy

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1 on Plan 24276, Hope Valley

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 79 native trees within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 8200/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. 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.

#### 2. Records must 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:

- (a) 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;
  - (ii) the date that the area was cleared; and
  - (iii) the size of the area cleared (number of trees).
- (b) Actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of the Permit.

#### 3. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 2 of this Permit, when requested by the *CEO*.

### DEFINITIONS

*CEO* means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

  
Ryan Mincham  
2018.12.07 09:37:34  
+08'00'

Ryan Mincham  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

7 December 2018  
CPS 8200/1, 7 December 2018

# Plan 8200/1

32.185244°S

32.185244°S

115.798366°E

115.808633°E





115.798366°E

115.808633°E

32.190381°S

32.190381°S

## Legend

-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities



0  200m

1:5,129

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Ryan Mincham  
2018.12.07 09:41:42  
+08'00'

Date .....

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



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
WA Crown Copyright 2018



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: CPS 8200/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation t/a Synergy  
Application received date: 21 September 2018

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1 ON PLAN 24276, HOPE VALLEY  
Local Government Authority: CITY OF KWINANA  
Localities: HOPE VALLEY

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
	79	Mechanical Removal	Stockpile/bulk earthworks

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 7 December 2018

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer noted that the proposed clearing involves removing individual trees and shrubs within a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) application area and found that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to any unacceptable risk to the environment.

## 2. Site Information

**Clearing Description:** The application to clear 79 native trees (in a footprint area of 7.64 hectares) within Lot 1 on Plan 24276, Hope Valley, is for the purpose of rehabilitation earthworks.

**Vegetation Description:** The application area has been mapped as the following vegetation types (Hedde et al., 1980):

- Karrakatta Complex-Central And\South, described as predominantly open forest of *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (tuart) - *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) - *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) and woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) - *Banksia species*. *Agonis flexuosa* (peppermint) is co-dominant south of the Capel River.; and
- Cottesloe Complex-Central and South described as predominantly low open forest and low woodland of *Banksia attenuata* (Slender Banksia) - *Banksia menziesii* (Firewood Banksia) - *Eucalyptus tottiana* (Pricklybark); closed heath on the limestone outcrops.

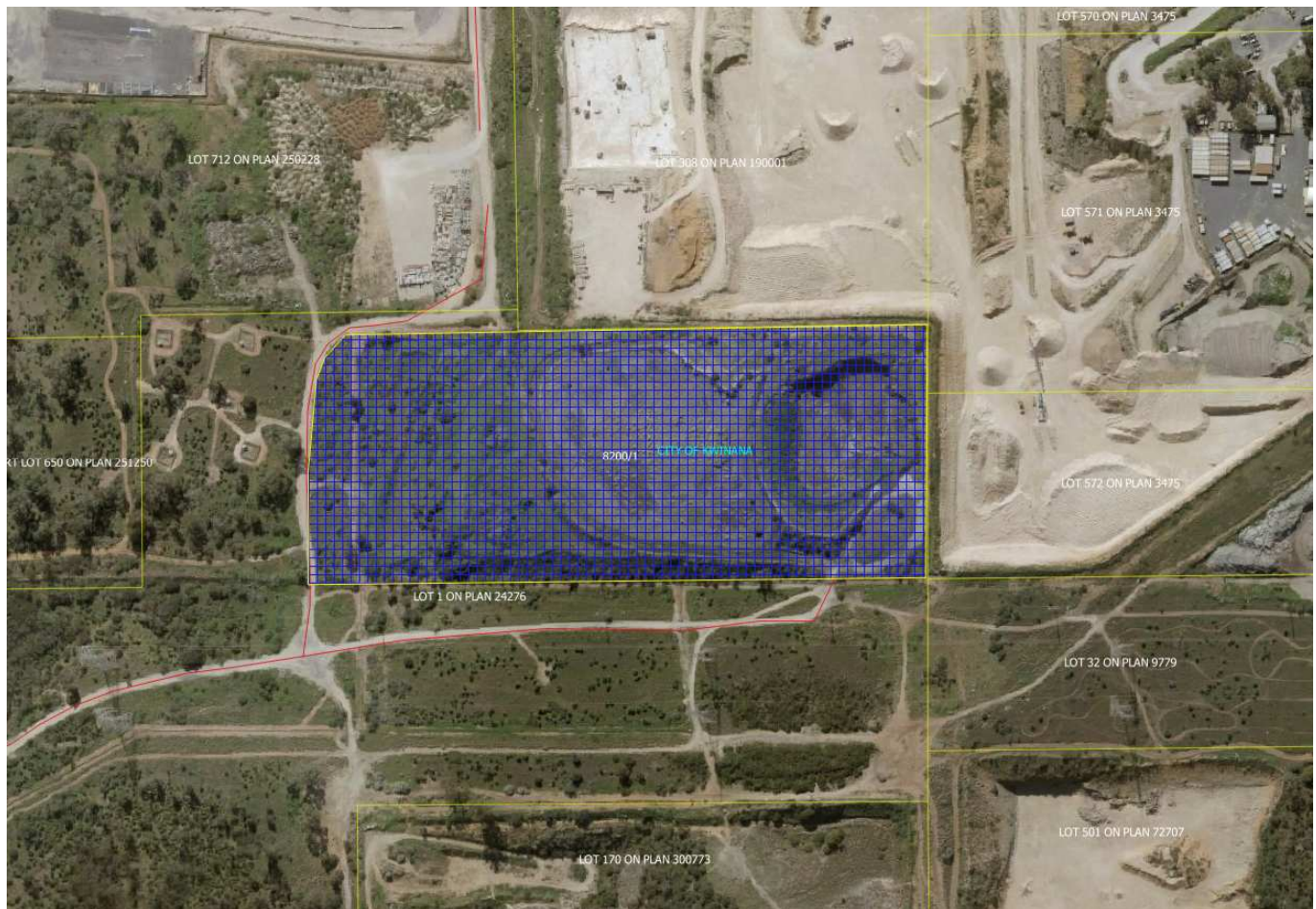
The application area was historically cleared to allow for a limestone quarry then later utilised as a fly ash dam during the operation of the coal fired Kwinana Power Station. The area mainly consists of weed species and three self-seeded native shrub/tree species (Synergy, 2018).

**Vegetation Condition:** A review of the application area using aerial photography together with supporting information provided by the applicant (Synergy, 2018) has determined that the application area, previously a limestone quarry and fly ash dam, is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition defined as no longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species.

**Soil/Landform Type:** The application area has been mapped as the following land subsystem (Schoknecht, 2004):

- Spearwood S2a Phase (approximately 99.85% of the application area) is described as lower slopes (1-5%) of dune ridge with moderately deep to deep siliceous yellow-brown sands or pale sands with yellow-brown subsoils and minor limestone outcrop; and
- Spearwood S4a Phase (approximately 0.15% of the application area) is described as flat to gently undulating sandplain with deep, pale and sometimes bleached, sands with yellow-brown subsoils.

**Comments:** The local area considered in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius around the perimeter of the application area.



**Figure 1:** Application area (cross-hatched blue)

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application area was historically cleared to allow for a limestone quarry then later utilised as a fly ash dam during the operation of the coal fired Kwinana Power Station. It is no longer used for this purpose and requires rehabilitation earthworks, such as surface reforming, to stabilise the area. The application proposes to clear 79 native shrubs and/or trees (within a clearing footprint of 7.64 hectares) most likely established by natural self-seeding from surrounding remnant vegetation. The application area, which also comprises eight weed species, is considered to be in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

The 79 native shrubs/trees comprise 66 *Acacia rostellifera* (summer scented wattle), 12 *Leptospermum laevigatum* (tea tree) and one *Eucalyptus rudis* (flooded gum) (Synergy, 2018). None of these species are considered to be of conservation significance. The application area, and existing vegetation type and structure, no longer represent the mapped vegetation types noted in section 2 above.

According to available databases, three rare flora species (all orchids) and seventeen priority flora species [one Priority 1 (P1), one P2, seven P3 and eight P4] have been recorded within the local area. Given the application area was historically cleared and the previous landuse, it is considered the application area does not comprise suitable habitat for rare or priority flora.

According to available databases, 23 threatened fauna species and eight priority fauna species have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). However noting the specific habitat requirements of these species, the current vegetation composition and structure, the isolation of the application area from surrounding vegetation and the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation within the application area, the application area is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna, including species of conservation significance.

Given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, the species composition and structure and the weedy understorey, the application area is not likely to contain vegetation associated with the 'Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Region' priority ecological community (federally listed threatened ecological community) or the 'Melaleuca huegelii - Melaleuca systema shrublands on limestone ridges' threatened ecological community. Both of these communities are mapped within the local area.

Noting that the application area is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, and is unlikely to contain any conservation significant flora, threatened or priority ecological communities, or significant habitat for fauna, it is considered unlikely to contain a high level of biological diversity.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion retains approximately 38.57 per cent of its pre-European extent of native vegetation

(Government of Western Australia, 2018a). The mapped Hedde vegetation complexes Karrakatta Complex-Central and South and Cottesloe Complex-Central and South retain approximately 23.48 and 32.17 per cent of their pre-European extents, respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2018b). The local area retains approximately 37.7 per cent native vegetation cover. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, the vegetation composition and condition and the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) vegetation condition, the application area is not considered to be representative of the mapped vegetation complexes and is not considered significant as a remnant within the local area (10 kilometre radius).

No watercourses, wetlands or conservation areas are recorded within close proximity to the application area.

Noting the extent of proposed clearing, flat topography and the mapped highly permeable soil type within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation, long-term deterioration to the quality of surface or underground water, or cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Noting the historical development and land use of the application area, the high presence of weeds and the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the remaining vegetation, the assessment has found that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

## Planning instruments and other relevant matters

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

The clearing permit application was advertised on DWER's website on 3 October 2018 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

## 4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed November 2018
- Synergy (2018) (Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation t/a Synergy) Supporting documents for clearing permit application CPS 8200/1, received 21 September 2018. Western Australia (DWER ref. A1722344).
- Government of Western Australia. (2018a) 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>
- Government of Western Australia. (2018b) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth. Available from: <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca>
- Hedde, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- 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.

### GIS Databases

- NatureMap (conservation significant fauna)
- DAFWA Subsystems V5; Soils of WA
- Vegetation Complexes – South West Forests
- Managed Tenure
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- TPFL Data October 2018
- WAHerb Data October 2018
- Aboriginal Sites Register
- IBRA Vegetation WA
- WA TECPEC