



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8273/1
File Number: DWERTV1835
Duration of Permit: From 18 July 2019 to 24 May 2023

PERMIT HOLDER

Vinci & Son Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 9 on Diagram 42350, Karragullen

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8273/1.

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. Dieback and 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* and *dieback*:

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

3. Land where revegetation is to be done

The area hatched red on attached Plan 8273/1 is to be revegetated using *direct seeding* and *planting* using species of *local provenance*.

4. 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 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 clearing commenced;
 - (iii) the date the extraction operations ceased;
 - (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 1 of this Permit; and
 - (vi) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit.
- (b) In relation to the *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 3 of this Permit:
- (i) the location of any areas *rehabilitated*, 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) a description of the *rehabilitation* activities undertaken;
 - (iii) the size of the area *rehabilitated* (in hectares).

5. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before the 30 June each year, a written report:
- (i) of records required under condition 4 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 the 30 June of each year.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

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

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

direct seeding means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

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

local provenance means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared;

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;

planting means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

revegetate/ed/ion means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native vegetation in an area using methods such as direct seeding and planting;

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 species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

19 June 2019

Plan 8273/1

32.09473°S

32.09473°S

116.116687°E

116.12672°E








116.116687°E

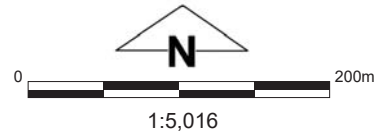
116.12672°E

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Legend

-  Clearing Instruments Conditions
-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority
-  Roads



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

ME-6 Date 19 June 2019
Mathew Gannaway

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





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8273/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: Vinci & Son Pty Ltd
Application received date: 27 November 2018

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 9 on Diagram 42350, Karragullen
Local Government Authority: Armadale, City of
Localities: Karragullen

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.5	-	Mechanical Removal	Gravel extraction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision: Granted
Decision Date: 19 June 2019

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 at variance to any clearing principles.

Through the assessment, it was identified that the application area contains weeds and dieback. A weed and dieback management condition has been placed on the clearing permit to minimise the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into adjacent vegetation.

The Delegated Officer also had consideration for the management measures proposed by the applicant, specifically regarding the approximately 4.9 ha of area outside the application area that is to be rehabilitated using a mixture of tube stock and direct seeding using native species of local provenance.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to any unacceptable risk to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description	The application is for the proposed clearing of 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the abovementioned Lot for the purpose of gravel extraction (Figure 1).
Vegetation Description	The vegetation within the application area is mapped as vegetation complex, Yarragil 1: Complex Open forest of <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> - <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> on slopes with mixtures of <i>Eucalyptus patens</i> and <i>E. megacarpa</i> on the valley floors in humid and subhumid zones (Mattiske and Havel 1998). A flora and vegetation survey by Accendo (2015) undertaken within an area immediately adjacent to the application area identified one vegetation type; <i>Xanthorrhoea preissii</i> shrubland over a herb ground layer with occasional emergent <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> .
Vegetation Condition	The vegetation within the application area is in degraded (Keighery 1994) condition (Accendo 2015) defined as; basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance, scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management.
Soil/Landform Type:	One soil type is mapped within the application area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dwellingup 2 Phase: Shallow to moderately deep gravelly brownish sands, pale brown sands and earthy sands overlying lateritic duricrust (Schoknecht et al. 2004).
Comment	The local area considered in the assessment of this application is a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area. The local area retains approximately 70 per cent native vegetation cover.



Figure 1: Application area shown in blue

3. Minimisation and mitigation measures

The applicant provided the following avoidance and mitigation measures within the clearing permit application (Accendo 2015):

- Clearing will occur on a staged basis to reduce the area of exposed soil as far as practicable; and
- Topsoil will be removed (approximately 100 mm to 300 mm thick) and stockpiled in windrows for respreading during rehabilitation.

As part of the City of Armadale's Extractive Industry Licence (EIL), the applicant will revegetate approximately 4.9 ha of Lot 9 on Diagram 42350, Karragullen, using a mixture of tube stock and direct seeding using native species of local provenance (Accendo 2019). Also as part of the EIL, the following plans have been prepared (Accendo 2019):

- Lot 9 Brookton Highway, Karragullen, Site Environmental Management Plan (V6) which outlines rehabilitation, weed and stormwater management; and
- A *Phytophthora* Dieback Management Plan which outlines management of a dieback infestation within the application area.

4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The vegetation within the application area is *Xanthorrhoea preissii* shrubland with occasional *Xanthorrhoea gracilis*, and regenerating, occasional *Corymbia calophylla*. According to available aerial photography, the application area was previously cleared in the late 1960s/early 1970s. The applicant has indicated that historical land uses (livestock grazing and gravel extraction) has also resulted in the disturbance of the application area and surrounds. An open gravel pit is located immediately to the north of the application area and jarrah forest is present to the east of the application area.

According to available databases, nine threatened fauna species, two priority 1, two priority 3, five priority 4 and two specially protected fauna species have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) 2007-). Based on the vegetation type within the application area, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for conservation significant fauna recorded within the local area, and the application area is not likely to act as a local ecological corridor.

According to available databases, eight threatened flora and 29 priority flora have been recorded within the local area. A flora and vegetation survey undertaken by Accendo (2015) in a location adjacent to the application area at an optimal time did not record any threatened or priority flora species. Approximately half of the taxa recorded were introduced species. The application area is not expected to support threatened or priority flora species.

According to available datasets, the application area is not mapped within any threatened ecological community (TEC) or priority ecological community (PEC) boundaries. No wetlands or watercourses are recorded within or in close proximity to the application area. No riparian vegetation was identified within the application area (Accendo 2015). In addition, the application area is not within or adjacent to any conservation areas.

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 (i.e. pre European settlement) (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). This is considered to be the threshold below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level. The local area retains approximately 70 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent. Approximately 81 per cent of the Yarragil 1 vegetation complex remains of its pre-European clearing extent, with approximately 74 per cent of the complex within tenure managed by DBCA (Government of Western Australia 2018). The application area is not considered likely to be significant as a remnant within a highly cleared area.

Based on the mapped land degradation risk, the application area has a relatively low likelihood of water erosion, subsurface acidification, flooding and water logging. Noting this, the condition of the vegetation, the absence of watercourses/wetlands, the historical disturbances and the extent of vegetation remaining in the local area, the proposed clearing is not expected to result in appreciable land degradation, water quality deterioration or flooding. DWER notes that stormwater, soil and erosion control is outlined in the Lot 9 Brookton Highway Site Environmental Management Plan (V6) (Accendo 2019).

The applicant advised that the application area has been assessed for dieback and is suspected to be infested. The application area also contains a high degree of weed incursion attributed to the previous clearing of the application area. Weed and dieback management practices will help mitigate and minimise impacts to the adjacent remnant native vegetation. DWER notes that the applicant has prepared a *Phytophthora* Dieback Management Plan and a weed management plan contained within the Lot 9 Brookton Highway Site Environmental Management Plan (V6) (Accendo 2019). DWER notes that extraction will occur in the non-infested area initially with extraction in the *Phytophthora* dieback infested area occurring once all works are completed in the *Phytophthora* dieback free area, as per the *Phytophthora* Dieback Management Plan (Accendo 2019).

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation website on 18 December 2018 for a public submission period closing 8 January 2019. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

On 20 May 2019, the City of Armadale issued an EIL which was subject to conditions relating to compliance with local laws relating to extractive industries, compliance with the Lot 9 Brookton Highway Site Environmental Management Plan (V6) (Accendo 2019) as approved by the City of Armadale, and payment of relevant fees. DWER understands that the City of Armadale requires a payment of a bond prior to the commencing of clearing and that this payment remains outstanding to date. The EIL outlines staging of extraction activities to ensure that no more than 2.2 ha of operational area is open at any time. DWER notes that the applicant is to follow the directions within the EIL and that the clearing of the application area should be in line with the requirements of the EIL.

The application area forms a part of the wider extraction activities under the EIL and the final land use of the application area will be for pasture. DWER notes that approximately 4.9 ha of Lot 9 on Diagram 42350, Karragullen, outside the application area, is to be rehabilitated using a mixture of tube stock and direct seeding using native species of local provenance, as per the Lot 9 Brookton Highway Site Environmental Management Plan (V6) (Accendo 2019) as approved by the City of Armadale. This area has been conditioned on the permit, with the revegetation requirements detailed within the EIL.

No aboriginal sites of significance have been recorded within the application area.

5. References

- Accendo Australia (2015). Application for Clearing (Area) Permit – Lot 9 Brookton Highway, Karragullen, Supporting document; including Flora and vegetation survey. (DWER Reference: A1742746)
- Accendo Australia (2019). Lot 9 Brookton Highway, Karragullen, Site Environmental Management Plan; including *Phytophthora* Dieback Management Plan. (DWER Reference: A1793316)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001). National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2007-). NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>.
- Government of Western Australia. (2018). 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics Report. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Retrieved 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.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel J..J (1998). Vegetation Mapping in the South West of Western Australia and Regional Forest Agreement vegetation complexes. Map sheets for Pemberton, Collie, Pinjarra, Busselton- Margaret River, Mt Barker, and Perth, Western Australia. Scale 1:250,000. Perth, 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:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DAFWA Heritage
- DBCA Estate
- DEC Covenant
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, linear
- National Trust WA Covenant
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC bio datasets (accessed January 2019)
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands