



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	8396/1
Duration of Permit:	From 5 October 2019 to 4 October 2024
Permit Holder:	EII Gas Transmission Service WA (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

Pipeline Licence PL68

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of pipeline maintenance.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 26.905 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 8396/1.

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:

- (i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

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 authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake *clearance surveys* for greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*), mulgara (*Dasyercus* species), dampierland plain slider (*Lerista separanda*) and great desert skink (*Liopholis kintorei*).
- (b) Where greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink 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 authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink 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 greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink injury or mortality.
- (e) Where any greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink 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 greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink 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 greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink were 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 greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink under Condition 7(c); and
 - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the greater bilby, mulgara, dampierland plain slider and/or great desert skink under Condition 7(c).

8. Watercourse management

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*.
- (b) Where a *watercourse* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface water 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:

- 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 area was cleared;
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
 - (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.
- b) Actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 5 of this Permit; and
- c) Actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with Condition 6 of this Permit.

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 4 October 2024, 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 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, 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 *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*;

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.



Daniel Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
12 September 2019

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