10 Clearing Principles Assessment – Swanbourne Laydown Area

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.	The remnant vegetation targeted for removal is not comprised of a high level of biological diversity. The vegetation consists of two native vegetation species *Xanthorrhoea preissii* and *Macrozamia sp*. in a parkland cleared environment. Due to the highly degraded nature of the vegetation in the proposed clearing area, it is unlikely that the clearing will be at variance to this principle.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	The vegetation present within this area would be of low value and unlikely to provide significant habitat values or support indigenous fauna. There is no vegetation proposed for clearing that would meet the criteria as potential Black Cockatoo breeding habitat trees (diameter at breast height greater than or equal to 50cm) or for night roosting. While Black Cockatoos may feed on Grass tree seeds, this vegetation does not make up a significant portion of their diet and would offer very low foraging value. The total area of vegetation within the clearing footprint is estimated to cover approximately 0.3ha, which is not considered significant habitat for the Black Cockatoos, as it is less than 1 ha in size and does not contain known breeding hollows or night roosting sites (DSEWPaC 2012).	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.	Desktop studies show that no declared rare or priority flora species occur or are likely to occur within the site.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.	There are no TECs located within or adjacent to this site.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as	The remnant or regrowth vegetation proposed to be cleared consists of commonly occurring species and is unlikely to have significance as	Proposal is not likely to be at

Principle	Assessment	Outcome
a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.	remnant native vegetation due to its highly degraded state.	variance to this Principle
(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	There are no wetlands or water courses within the vicinity of the site.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	The native vegetation at this site is parkland cleared and would not significantly contribute to the control or prevention of land degradation. The majority of the site consists of mown grasses, which will not require removal for material laydown and the site will have erosion management practices in place.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.	The surrounding area is highly urbanised and there are no areas adjacent to the site that contain significant conservation values.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.	Groundwater is approximately 20 metres below the land surface at the site and the clearing is unlikely to have an impact upon its quality. There are no surface water features within or adjacent to the site.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle
(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.	The nature of the vegetation proposed to be cleared and the small area of clearing should not impact upon the incidence or intensity of flooding and will not influence surrounding stormwater drainage. Stormwater will be managed on site for the protection of rail infrastructure.	Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle