



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	9070/2
Duration of Permit:	From 26 December 2020 to 25 December 2025
Permit Holder:	Big Bell Gold 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

General Purpose Lease 51/9
Mining Lease 51/6
Mining Lease 51/12
Mining Lease 51/31
Mining Lease 51/33
Mining Lease 51/53
Mining Lease 51/62
Mining Lease 51/75
Mining Lease 51/96
Mining Lease 51/203
Mining Lease 51/320
Mining Lease 51/321
Mining Lease 51/334
Mining Lease 51/374
Mining Lease 51/486
Mining Lease 51/496
Mining Lease 51/524
Mining Lease 51/568
Mining Lease 51/569
Mining Lease 51/572
Mining Lease 51/575
Mining Lease 51/581
Mining Lease 51/793
Mining Lease 51/794
Mining Lease 51/795
Mining Lease 51/819
Mining Lease 51/820
Miscellaneous Licence 51/18
Miscellaneous Licence 51/33
Miscellaneous Licence 51/34

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1,581.75 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded green on attached Plan 9070/2.

4. Clearing restricted

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within the area shaded red on attached Plan 9070/2.

5. Clearing restricted

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within the area shaded green on attached Plan 9070/2, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

6. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within 6 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

7. 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

8. 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.

9. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *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.

10. Vegetation management – watercourse

- (a) where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* or *wetland* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.

11. Flora Management

Where *Tecticornia* sp. nov have been identified at 634624 mE 7026564 mN Zone 51 and E634678 mE 7026435 mN Zone 51, and *Eremophila* sp. nov has been identified at 633898 mE 7027725 mN Zone 51, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (a) No clearing occurs within 10 metres of *Tecticornia* sp. nov and *Eremophila* sp nov. unless first approved by the *CEO*; or
- (b) No clearing of *Tecticornia* sp. nov and *Eremophila* sp nov. occurs unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

12. 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 8 of this Permit; and
- (c) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with Condition 9 of this Permit.
- (d) actions taken in accordance with Condition 10 and Condition 11 of this Permit.

13. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* by 1 October each year for the life of this Permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this Permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 12 of this Permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* by 1 October of each year.
- (c) Prior to 25 December 2025, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 13(a) or 13(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for administering the clearing provisions contained within the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

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.

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.



Dan Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
30 April 2021

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