

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 9164/1

File Number: A0015/202101

Duration of Permit: From 15 May 2021 to 14 May 2023

PERMIT HOLDER

Focus Minerals (Laverton) Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Mining Lease 38/37

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 1.147 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 9164/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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.

2. Avoid, minimise etc 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.

3. Vegetation management - watercourse and drainage line surface flow

- (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.

4. 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) the purpose for which the clearing was undertaken.

- (b) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with Condition 1 of this Permit:
- (c) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 2 of this Permit; and
- (d) actions taken in accordance with Condition 3 of this Permit.

5. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* 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 4 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 31 July of each year.
- (c) Prior to 14 May 2023, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 4 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 5(a) or 5(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms 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 22 April 2021

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