

16 November 2021

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Knightside Nominees Pty Ltd

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Forrestdale Business Park West – Clearing Permit Referral Forrestdale Business Park West Sewer Link**

On behalf of DevelopmentWA please find attached a Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act) to clear 1,677m<sup>2</sup> of native vegetation on Lot 300 Keane Road, Forrestdale, located in the Forrestdale Business Park West precinct (Figure 1). The proposed clearing is to install a sewer link to service the future development in the Forrestdale Business Park West.

## 1 Background

DevelopmentWA is proposing to install a sewer link to service the future stages of Forrestdale Business Park West. The proposed sewer link is located in an area that contains scattered native trees and shrubs (Figure 1).

## 2 Site History

Examination of historic aerial photographs reveals that the entire lot was completely cleared in 1983 (Plate 1).

**Plate 1: Aerial Photograph September 1983**



### 3 Vegetation

PGV Environmental assessed the area on 11 August 2021. The vegetation in the area was a mix of planted, non-endemic tree species, particularly River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and Swamp Mahogany (*E. robusta*) small areas of native trees and shrubs with a weedy understorey (Plate 2).

**Plate 2: Planted Exotic Trees with Weedy Understorey**



Some native plants have regrown in the area since it was cleared in the 1980s. The native species recorded included *Melaleuca preissiana* (Paperbark) mostly young Flooded Gum saplings (*Eucalyptus rudis*) and *Melaleuca preissiana* (Paperbark), *Astartea affinis* and *Hypocalymma angustifolium* (Plate 3). The condition of the vegetation was rated as Completely Degraded due to the high density of weed species including Annual Veldtgrass (*Ehrharta longiflora*), Pigface (*Carpobrotus edulis*), Guildford Grass (*Romulea rosea*) and Oxalis (*Oxalis purpurea*). The woody weed *Acacia longifolia* was also common.

**Plate 3: Native Regrowth Vegetation (Paperbark)**



#### 4 Ten Clearing Permit Principles

The Ten Clearing Principles have been addressed below to determine the environmental impact that the removal of the native vegetation on the site would have.

*Principle (a): Vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.*

The vegetation on the site is Completely Degraded and is regrowth after clearing of the site in the past. There are very few native plants with most of the site being planted exotic trees or weeds. The vegetation is not representative of a TEC or a PEC. The proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (b): 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 fauna habitat is in poor condition with high levels of disturbance. The site does not contain habitat for Threatened or Priority species. The proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (c): Vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.*

No Threatened or Priority plant species are likely to occur on the site given the past clearing and high level of disturbance. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (d): 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.*

The vegetation on the site is not representative of a Threatened Ecological Community. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (e): Vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.*

The site is not a significant remnant of vegetation. The proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (f): Vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.*

The site is mapped as a Multiple Use Sumpland (Unique Feature Identifier (UFI) 14883). The wetland values are commensurate with the Multiple Use Management Category. The proposed clearing may be at variance to this principle.

*Principle (g): Vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.*

Clearing the vegetation on the site will not result in land degradation. The area of clearing is mapped within the Pinjarra Plain.

The area of clearing is largely mapped within the Pinjarra P8 Phase soil type, which is described as broad poorly drained flats and poorly defined stream channels with moderately deep to deep sands over mottled clays; acidic or less commonly alkaline gley and yellow duplex soils to uniform bleached or pale brown sands over clay.

#### Land Degradation Risk Category Pinjarra P8 Phase

Water Erosion	<3% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk
Wind Erosion	10-30% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk
Waterlogging	>70% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk
Flooding	<3% of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk
Salinity risk	3-10% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline

The mapped soil unit has a 10-30% risk of wind erosion which may indicate that appropriate dust management measures will be required during the works which mitigates the risk to the surrounding area. The area will be stabilised after clearing to avoid any dust blowing off the site. The soil unit has >70% at risk of waterlogging. The proposed works will be undertaken in January to ensure that the site is accessible and once the sewer is installed ground levels will be restored. The proposed clearing area is generally not susceptible to water erosion, flooding or risk of salinity, therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation. The proposed clearing is not considered to be at variance to this principle

*Principle (h): 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 site is not adjacent to a Bush Forever Site or Conservation Reserve. The proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (i): Vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.*

There are no watercourses that intersect the application area. A part of Multiple Use Sumpland (Unique Feature Identifier (UFI) 14883 is mapped on the site. The wetland is highly modified and the clearing will not further impact on the wetland values.

The proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

*Principle (j): Vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.*

The soil unit has a low risk of flooding and stormwater will be controlled by the existing road stormwater management system. The proposed clearing is not considered at variance to this principle.

## **5 Conclusion**

A small amount of native re-growth vegetation occurs in the proposed sewer alignment. Assessment of the proposed clearing of 1,677m<sup>2</sup> containing some native vegetation required for the installation of the sewer link concludes that the clearing would not have a significant impact on the environment. We would like to apply for a Section 51DA approval to clear the vegetation.

Please contact me if you would like any further information or if you would like some assistance on site during a site inspection.

Yours sincerely



Paul van der Moezel  
Managing Director

**Accompanying Documentation**

Form Referral of proposed clearing

Shapefiles in ESRI Format

**Figures**

Figure 1: Clearing Permit Area

**Attachments**

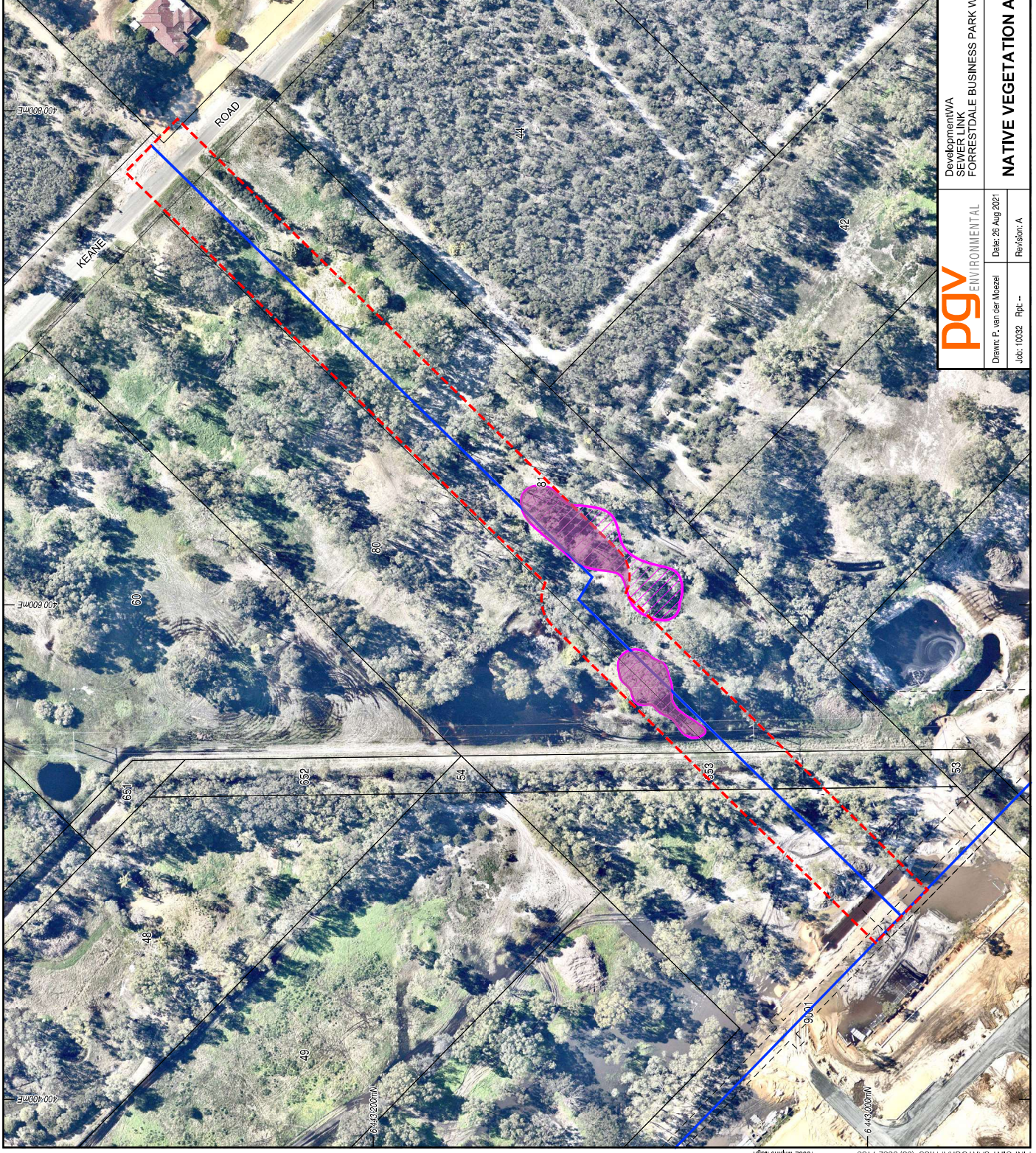
Attachment 1: Letter of Authority



0 10 20 30 40 50m  
SCALE 1 : 1 500 at A3 (MGA)

**Legend**

- Cadastral Boundary
- - - Easement Boundary
- Sewer Link
- - - 15m Buffer from Sewer
- Native Vegetation
- Clearing Area



<b>PGV</b> ENVIRONMENTAL	Development/WORK SEWER LINK FORRESTDALE BUSINESS PARK WEST	CADASTRAL SOURCE: Landgate, August 2021. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH SOURCE: NearMap, from August 2021.	
	Drawn: P. van der Meezel Job: 10032 Rpt. --	Date: 26 Aug 2021 Revision: A	<b>NATIVE VEGETATION ALONG FORRESTDALE SEWER LINK</b>