GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 1912/1
File Number: DEC3450
Duration of Permit: From 19 August 2007 to 19 August 2009

PERMIT HOLDER

Electricity Networks Corporation (trading as Western Power)

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 2 Diagram 83919, Shenton Avenue, Joondalup

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of 1.7 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 1912/1 for the purpose of the construction of a 132/22kVsubstation.

CONDITIONS

1 Dieback and weed control

(a) When undertaking any clearing, or other activity pursuant to this Permit the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *dieback*:
   (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
   (ii) avoid the movement of soil in wet conditions;
   (iii) ensure that no *dieback*-affected *road building materials*, *mulch* or *fill* are brought into an area that is not affected by *dieback*; and
   (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

(b) When undertaking any clearing, or other activity pursuant to 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 *road building materials*, *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.

(c) At least once in each 12 month period for the *term* of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

2 Flora Management

(a) Prior to undertaking any clearing within the areas described above, the areas shall be inspected by a *flora specialist* who shall identify rare flora and *priority flora taxa*:

(b) Where rare flora or *priority flora taxa* are identified in relation to condition 2(a) the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
   (i) All records of rare flora and *priority flora taxa* are submitted to the CEO
   (ii) No clearing occurs within 50m of identified rare flora, unless approved by the CEO
   (iii) No clearing occurs with 10m of identified *priority flora taxa*, unless approved by the CEO.

3 Fauna Management

(a) Prior to clearing, the area shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify fauna habitat suitable to be utilised by Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus latirostris*

(b) Prior to clearing, any habitat identified by condition 3(a) and being utilised by Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist*

(c) Prior to clearing the Permit Holder shall ensure that any fauna identified in condition 3(b) shall be removed and relocated by a *fauna clearing person*, in accordance with a licence issued by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

4 Priority Ecological Community

(a) Prior to undertaking clearing, the areas proposed to be cleared shall be inspected by an *environmental specialist* who shall identify if the *Priority Ecological Community* "Northern spearwood shrublands and woodlands" occurs;

(b) Prior to clearing, an environmental specialist shall document any potential impacts on the *Priority Ecological Community* "Northern spearwood shrublands and woodlands" in the local area;

(c) The Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 250m of any identified priority ecological community identified under condition 4(a), unless approved by the CEO.

5 Offsets

(a) Determination of offsets

(i) If part or all of the *clearing* to be done is or may be at variance with one or more of the *clearing principles*, then the permit holder must implement an *offset* in accordance with Conditions 5(a) and 5(b) of this Permit with respect to that native vegetation.
(ii) In determining the *offset* to be implemented with respect to a particular area of native vegetation proposed to be cleared under this Permit, the permit holder must have regard to the offset principles contained in condition 5(b) of this Permit.
(iii) Once the permit holder has developed an offset proposal, the permit holder must provide that offset proposal to the CEO for the CEO's approval prior to undertaking any clearing to which the offset relates, and prior to implementing the offset.
(iv) Clearing may not commence until and unless the CEO has approved the offset proposal.
(v) The permit holder shall implement the offset proposal approved under condition 5(a)(iii).
(vi) Each offset proposal shall include a direct offset, timing for implementation of the offset proposal and may additionally include contributing offsets.

(b) Offset principles

For the purpose of this Part, the offset principles are as follows:

(i) *direct offsets* should directly counterbalance the loss of the native vegetation;
(ii) *contributing offsets* should complement and enhance the *direct offset*;
(iii) *offsets* are implemented only once all avenues to avoid, minimise, rectify or reduce environmental impacts have been exhausted;
(iv) the environmental values, habitat, species, ecological community, physical area, ecosystem, landscape, and hydrology of the *offset* should be the same as, or better than, that of the area of native vegetation being *offset*;
(v) a ratio greater than 1:1 should be applied to the size of the area of native vegetation that is offset to compensate for the risk that the *offset* may fail;
(vi) *offsets* must entail a robust and consistent assessment process;
(vii) in determining an appropriate *offset*, consideration should be given to ecosystem function, rarity and type of *ecological community*, vegetation *condition*, habitat quality and area of *native vegetation* cleared;
(viii) the *offset* should either result in no net loss of native vegetation, or lead to a net gain in native vegetation and improve the condition of the natural environment;
(ix) *offsets* must satisfy all statutory requirements;

(x) *offsets* must be clearly defined, documented and audited;
(xi) *offsets* must ensure a long-term (10-30 year) benefit; and
(xii) an *environmental specialist* must be involved in the design, assessment and monitoring of *offsets*.

6 Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, as relevant:

(a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation undertaken pursuant to this permit:
  (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
  (ii) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
  (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

(b) In relation to Flora Management pursuant to condition 2:
  (i) the location of each rare flora or *priority flora taxa* recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994; and
  (ii) the species of each rare flora or *priority flora taxa* identified.

(c) In relation to Fauna Management pursuant to condition 3:
  (i) the location of each habitat tree identified recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  (ii) the species of each habitat tree identified;
  (iii) the number of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* relocated; and
  (iv) the location and date where relocated fauna was released, using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994.

(d) In relation to *Priority Ecological Community* Management pursuant to condition 4, the location of each *Priority Ecological Community* of "Northern spearwood shrublands and woodlands" recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994.

(e) In relation to the offsets of areas pursuant to condition 5:
  (i) the location of any area of offsets recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  (ii) a description of the offset activities undertaken; and
  (iii) the size of the offset area (in hectares).

7 Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 8 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

8 Definitions

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

condition means the rating given to native vegetation using the *Keighery scale* and refers to the degree of change in the structure, density and species present in the particular vegetation in comparison to undisturbed vegetation of the same type;

contributing offsets has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9 Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

direct offsets has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9 Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

Ecological Community means a naturally occurring biological assemblage that occurs in a particular type of habitat (English and Blythe, 1997; 1999). The scale at which ecological communities are defined will depend on the level of detail in the information source, therefore no particular scale is specified.

environmental specialist means a person who is engaged by the permit holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

fauna specialist means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;

fauna clearing person means a person who has obtained a licence from the Department of Environment and Conservation, issued pursuant to the *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970* (as amended) authorising them to take fauna in order to carry out the approved clearing associated with this permit;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

flora specialist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

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;

offset means an offset required to be implemented under Condition 5 of this Permit;

Priority Ecological Community (PEC) means a possible threatened ecological community that does not meet survey criteria or that is not adequately defined, is adequately known and rare but not threatened, has recently been removed from the threatened list and requires regular monitoring, or is a conservation dependent ecological community;

priority flora taxa means those plant taxa that are described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia*, Department of Environment and Conservation, as amended;

road building materials means rock, gravel, soil, stone, timber, boulders and water;

term means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed;

weed means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976.

KJ Taylor
A/Deputy Director General, Environment
Department of Environment and Conservation.
Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

19 July 2007