

Vegetation Clearing Desktop Report

MR014239 Enterprise Ave RMU Installation

April 2025



Western Power

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Document Control

Document version history

Version	Date	Amendment
1	07/04/2025	Initial version
2	16/04/2025	Reviewed version 1
3	16/06/2025	Final version

1. Project Information

Project Area		
Project name: MR014239 Enterprise Ave RMU Installation		Contract/Work Order No: N0600390 – MR014239
Main purpose of clearing	Permanent/Temporary	Clearing area (ha)
New ring main site	Permanent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.009 ha (Envelope)
	Temporary <input type="checkbox"/>	
Proposed start date: 28/05/2025		Expected completion date: 30/05/2025
Method of clearing: Mechanical and manual		Machinery to be used: Excavation, truck & chipper, bobcat, service vehicles.
Project details: The project involves the installation of a new Ring Main unit (RMU) on Enterprise Avenue in the suburb of Falcon as part of the summer ready Mandurah project. The works are necessary upgrades to reinforce the power network to accommodate summer high demand.		
Guardian Permit ID reference number: PER-0001522		Permit/Exemption number: CPS1918/11

2. Map/photos

MR014239 Enterprise Ave RMU Clearing Envelope



Image 1: Map of clearing envelope (0.009 ha) for RMU installation on Enterprise Avenue, Falcon.

MR014239 RMU Clearing 10km Study Area

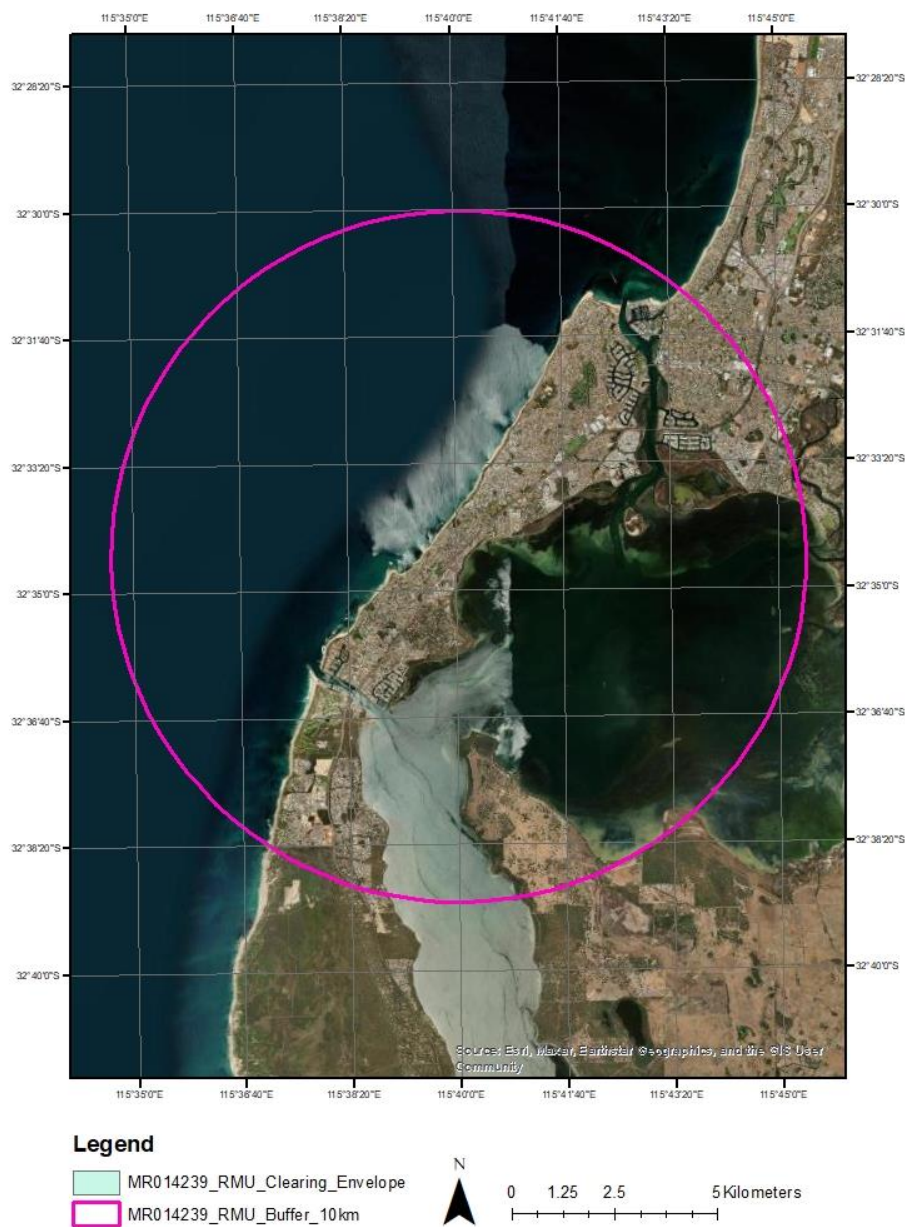


Image 2: Map of clearing assessment area (10km radius) for RMU installation on Enterprise Avenue, Falcon.



Image 3: Photo of RMU location and vegetation clearing area on Enterprise Avenue, Falcon.



Image 4: Photo of RMU location and degraded vegetation on Enterprise Avenue, Falcon.



Image 5: Photo of degraded vegetation to be removed for RMU installation.



Image 6: Photo of location marked for RMU installation within a weed understory and degraded vegetation.

3. Avoid, minimise and reduce extent and impact of clearing

Alternatives to clearing considered during the development of this project are outlined in Table 1:

Alternative to Clearing	Applicable	Discussion
Directional drilling of underground cables instead of open trenching	Yes	Directional drilling was used to connect underground cable. Vegetation clearing required for the RMU installation only.
Existing tracks are utilised where possible	Yes	RMU to be installed next to existing assets where the RMU access is partially cleared.
Utilising previously cleared areas where possible	Yes	RMU to be installed on land that was previously cleared and comprises of degraded vegetation within a disturbed road reserve.
Consideration of alternative engineering and design options	Yes	The RMU location was considered the optimal solution as it is situated in a partially cleared road reserve and is adjacent to current assets, and therefore minimises the extend of clearing.
Other	No	

Table 1: Alternatives to clearing

4. Site context

4.1 Land Tenure (Cadastral Information)

Property:

1. Public Road

Conservation Estates:

1. N/A

Local Government:

1. City of Mandurah

Other:

1. N/A

4.2 Vegetation description

The project area is not within a mapped Vegetation Association. The nearest mapped vegetation association is the Spearwood 6 association described as Woodland Southwest; Jarrah, marri and wandoo (*Eucalyptus marginata*, *Corymbia calophylla* and *E. wandoo*). The area is within a mapped Native vegetation clearing regulation ESA and is in a degraded (EPA, 2016) condition within the road reserve. The clearing involves the removal of acacia species shrubs with a weed infested understorey.

The vegetation description and condition are based on site photos and aerial imagery.

5. Spatial assessment (SPIDA View)

Western Power's online risk GIS database was analysed, and the following layers are indicated as having the potential for clearing impacts within a local area search radius of 1m.

DBCA managed tenure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bush Forever	<input type="checkbox"/>	CAWS Act Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Native Vegetation Clearing Regs ESAs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conservation listed fauna	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation listed flora	<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Power ESA sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	Native vegetation remaining	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened ecological communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Acid Sulfate Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PDWSA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ramsar or Important Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geomorphic or other mapped wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disease Risk Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erosion risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	Offset areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watercourses	<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Degradation	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other <input type="checkbox"/> Details:							

6. Assessment of vegetation clearing impacts

The proposed clearing has been assessed against each of the clearing principles in accordance with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation guideline “A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation under Part V Division 2 of the Environment Protection Act 1986” (DER, 2014).

Clearing permit principles fast track assessment	
Clearing principles (principles a-j)	Not likely to be at variance
<p>The clearing involves the removal of 0.009 ha of native vegetation. This involves a small area of shrubs and trees adjacent to L399 on Enterprise Avenue in Falcon. The area is in degraded (EPA, 2016) condition with a weed infested understorey.</p> <p>The acacia species to be removed are common species in a degraded area. The nearest known record of a protected flora species is a threatened species located over 6 km away to the northeast of the clearing area. Given the distance to the nearest known record, that only common species will be removed and the degraded nature of the clearing area, it is unlikely that any priority or threatened flora will be present in the area or impacted by the project.</p> <p>The vegetation to be removed does not represent any significant habitat for fauna species as the vegetation is isolated and degraded in nature. It is unlikely that the project clearing will impact fauna habitat in the area, particularly as there is vegetation remaining in the immediate area. There are no recorded black cockatoo breeding trees within a 10 km radius of the clearing area. Therefore, this project clearing is not considered significant habitat for any fauna species.</p> <p>The nearest known record of a threatened or priority ecological community (TEC/PEC) is the “Tuart (<i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i>) Woodlands and Forests of the Swan Coastal Plain” which is a Priority 3 (P3) at the state level and Critically Endangered (CR) at the commonwealth level. This mapped TEC/PEC is over 500m from the clearing area, and the vegetation in the clearing area is not representative of this community. Due to the degraded nature of the clearing area and lack of representative vegetation this project clearing is unlikely to represent any TEC/PECs. Therefore, this project clearing is not likely to impact any TEC/PECs.</p> <p>The project area is not within a mapped vegetation association. The nearest mapped vegetation association is the Spearwood 6 described as Woodland Southwest; Jarrah, marri and wandoo (<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i>, <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> and <i>E. wandoo</i>). The area is within a mapped Native vegetation clearing Regs ESA, however the vegetation is in a degraded (EPA, 2016) condition within a road reserve. The clearing involves the removal of some acacia species shrubs with a weed infested understorey. The vegetation to be cleared is not representative of the mapped vegetation associations and is isolated and fragmented. The removal will not impact any linkages, increase fragmentation or reduce ecological functioning in the area.</p> <p>The nearest conservation area is Len Howard Conservation Park and is located over 1.6 km away to the northeast. The nearest waterbody is located over 0.19 km to the east of the clearing area. Given the distance and the isolated nature of the vegetation, separated by residential areas and roads, it is unlikely that any waterbodies or conservation areas will be impacted by this project clearing.</p> <p>As the clearing involves the removal of 0.009 ha of vegetation in a residential area, it is unlikely that the clearing will increase the chance of flooding or increase the risk of land degradation. No surface water or groundwater will be taken for this project and the quality of the water in the area is unlikely to be impacted given the minor nature of the works.</p>	

7. Planning instrument or other relevant matters

There are no approved planning strategies relevant to this area. No further approvals or licenses are required. There are no Environmental Protection Policies over the area and the land is not subject to an agreement under the *Soil and Land Conservation Act*.

8. Clearing Permit Details

Western Power manages impacts of clearing through the implementation of an internal Vegetation Clearing Permit. The Western Power Vegetation Clearing Permit outlining the relevant clearing conditions is available in PER-0001522.

Post assessment requirements

Post assessment	Outcome	Justification / Further Action Required
Are submissions required?	No	Clearing 'not likely to be at variance' to the clearing principles a-J.
Could the area be affected by dieback?	Yes	Clearing located south of the 26 th parallel and receives over 400mm annual rainfall.
Has advice been received from DWER or an environmental specialist that the area may be susceptible to a pathogen other than dieback?	No	Clearing not in conservation estate or DBCA managed area.
Is a Vegetation Management Plan required?	No	CAR and therefore VMP not required.
Is rehabilitation/revegetation required?	No	There is no temporary clearing proposed. Area is less than 0.5 ha, not in an ESA and not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.
Is a Dieback Management Plan required?	No	Works recommended to be completed in dry conditions.
Is an offset required?	No	
What is the clearing risk rating?	Low	Clearing 'not likely to be at variance' with any clearing principles. Clearing area <0.5 ha.

9. References

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (YEAR). Climate Averages for Australian Sites – SITE – Available online from <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/index.shtml> Accessed 07/04/2025.

Department of Environment Regulation. (2014). A Guide to the Assessment of Applications to Clear Native Vegetation Under Part V Division 2 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). (2016). Technical Guide – Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (eds. K Freeman, G Stack, S Thomas and N Woolfrey). Perth, Western Australia.

