

ASS 010: MINERAL EXPLORATION WITHIN ROAD RESERVES

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Objective

To allow Shire consideration of applications from mining companies to undertake exploratory drilling on road reserves.

Policy

The Shire will consider application from mining companies to undertake exploratory drilling on road reserves. Approval will generally be granted subject to conditions as outlined in the Associated Procedure below.

Associated Procedure

The following are administration procedures relating to applications for Mineral Exploration within Road Reserves:

1. The Shire is to be provided with a plan showing the sites of all proposed drilling operations prior to commencement.
2. Exploration to proceed with minimal interference with flora and fauna contained within the area under exploration. Any removal of native vegetation to be in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regs 2004.
3. Drilling operation to cease during periods when harvesting in the district of the Shire of Esperance is banned under the Bush Fires Act, 1954.
4. The Shire is to be provided with detail of any gravel reserves or potable water supplies which may be discovered during the drilling operation.
5. The holder of the Exploration License must undertake drilling operations in such a manner so as to:
 - prevent the interaction of aquifers (this may require casing of drill holes); and
 - avoid interference with aquifers tapped by private water supplies.
6. Traffic Management is to be in accordance with AS 1742.3 Manual of uniform traffic control devices Part 2 Traffic control for works on roads” and MRWA Code of Practice for “Traffic Management for Works on Roads” and is the responsibility of the applicant.
7. The licensee must, where necessary, rehabilitate exploration sites where native vegetation is disturbed.

8. The licensee must indemnify the Shire against any claims for injury and property damage that may be sustained by members of the public as a result of drilling operations.
9. All drill holes in the road reserve are to be maintained to ensure public and animal safety and reinstated upon completion of the exploration project.
10. Any road surfaces disturbed during the operations to be reinstated to the satisfaction of the Director of Asset Management. In the event of the work being considered unsatisfactory by the Director of Asset Management the Shire will reinstate at the applicant's cost to Council standards. Such cost will include the Shire of Esperance Private Works On Cost.

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