



LANDS ACQUISITION ACT 1989
PRE-ACQUISITION DECLARATION

1. Acquisition

In accordance with the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989*, I am considering the acquisition of the interest in land specified in paragraph 4 for the public purpose in paragraph 5.

2. The acquiring authority

The Commonwealth of Australia is the acquiring authority.

3. The land

This declaration relates to land described as Lot 502 in Deposited Plan 55945 and located in District Nookawarra in the locality of South Murchison approximately 315 km north east of Geraldton and 40 km north of the Boolardy Station homestead in Western Australia. The land is an irregular polygon shape measuring approximately 12803 hectares. A plan of the land is attached.

4. The interest in the land

This declaration relates to the acquisition of an interest under an Indigenous Land Use Agreement within the meaning of the *Native Title Act 1993*, namely:

- the consent of any native title holders to the grant of a leasehold interest in the land (the Crown Lease) by the Western Australian Minister for Lands to the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) established by the *Science and Industry Research Act 1949*. Consent to the grant of the Crown Lease includes consent to any extension, re-grant or renewal of it;
- confirmation by any native title holders of the validity of an Investigation Licence granted by the Western Australian Minister for Lands to CSIRO over the land;
- the consent of any native title holders to the doing of all things ancillary to the Project (as described in paragraph 7 below); and
- the consent of any native title holders to all acts, matters and things reasonably necessary for the grant of the Crown Lease to CSIRO by the Western Australian Minister for Lands and the acquisition of the Crown Lease by CSIRO in accordance with the *Lands Acquisition Act 1989* or any extension, re-grant or renewal of the Crown Lease.

5. The public purpose

The public purpose of the acquisition is astronomical observations by CSIRO and incidental activities.

6. Suitability for development for use for a public purpose

The land appears to be suitable for development for use for the public purpose described in paragraph 5.

7. Particulars of the proposed development for use

The land will be developed to enable the Project to be operated and undertaken on the land.

The Project involves radio-astronomy and ancillary works and activities, including radio science studies, to be developed, operated or undertaken within the land described in paragraph 3 above (and proposed to be known as the Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory (MRO)). It is intended that the Project will include the following named radio-astronomy projects: the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder project (ASKAP), the Murchison Widefield Array project, the Precision Array to Probe the Epoch of Reionisation project, the Cosmological Reionisation Experiment, and Prep SKA. The Project will also include any other radio-astronomy and ancillary works and activities to be developed, operated or undertaken within the land described in paragraph 3 above (and proposed to be known as the Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory (MRO)) as determined by CSIRO in consultation with the Australian Square Kilometre Array Coordination Committee. The Project does not include the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project.

8. Reasons why the land appears to be suitable for the proposed development for use

The land appears to be suitable for the development for use described in paragraph 7 for the following reasons.

An extensive site selection process for establishing the Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory (MRO) and constructing the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder project (ASKAP) has been undertaken by CSIRO and the Western Australian government. As a result of that process, the land has been identified as the preferred location for the Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory (MRO). The land has excellent radio quietness and fulfils other requirements including that it is flat, it is above the floodplain, it is situated sufficiently far from mining activity and it is sufficiently close to other infrastructure such as roads.

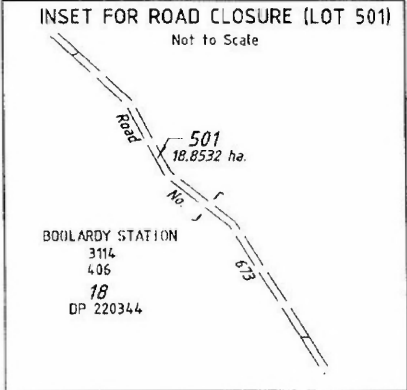
Dated this *fifth* day of *December* 2008.
Guy Verney

Guy Verney
Delegate of the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
Branch Manager
Special Claims and Land Policy Branch
Department of Finance and Deregulation

Note: This Pre-Acquisition Declaration signifies that the Commonwealth is considering acquisition of the interest in land specified in paragraph 3. It does NOT mean that the interest in land has been acquired.

LANDGATE COPY OF ORIGINAL NOT TO SCALE Wed Oct 1 11:35:48 2008 JOB 31068880

VER 2	AMENDMENT LOT BOUNDARIES	AUTHORIZED BY CF	DATE 14/11/2007	BOULARDY STATION 3114 406 18 DP 220344	NOOKAWARRA STATION 3114 575 10 DP 238421	TYPE CROWN	PURPOSE SUBDIVISION	HELD BY LANDGATE IN DIGITAL FORM ONLY
						PLAN OF LOT 502		
<p style="text-align: center;">502 12803.15 ha.</p>						FORMER TENURE LOT 500 - DP 55944 LR - LOT 501 - THIS PLAN LR -		
				DISTRICT TOWNSITE FILE LOCAL AUTHORITY LOCALITY		NOOKAWARRA 50159-2007 SHIRE OF MURCHISON SOUTH MURCHISON		
REFERENCE CORR FILE 50159-2007 pages 87, 94 & 130						INDEX		
SCALE @A3: ALL DISTANCES ARE IN METRES						1:75 000		
SUBJECT TO SURVEY NOT FOR ALIENATION PURPOSES								
LODGED DATE: 30.5.2007		TYPE OF VALIDATION FULL AUDIT: PWK		SURVEY FIRM LANDGATE - C.FIORENTINO DATE: 16-05-2007				
FEE PAID N/A		LEGAL COMPONENT CERTIFIED CORRECT						
ASSESS No. N/A		30.5.2007 Mans. or Statutory Services						
IN ORDER FOR DEALINGS								
SUBJECT TO 1. ROAD CLOSURE 2. PRIOR APPROVAL OF DP 55944								
FOR AUTHORIZED LAND OFFICER <i>[Signature]</i>						DATE 30.5.2007		
APPROVED								
AUTHORIZED LAND OFFICER						DATE		
						DEPOSITED PLAN 55945		
						SHEET 1 OF 1 VERSION 2		





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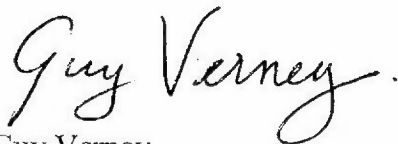
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8. Reasons why the land appears to be suitable for the proposed development for use

The land appears to be suitable for the development for use described in paragraph 7 for the following reasons.

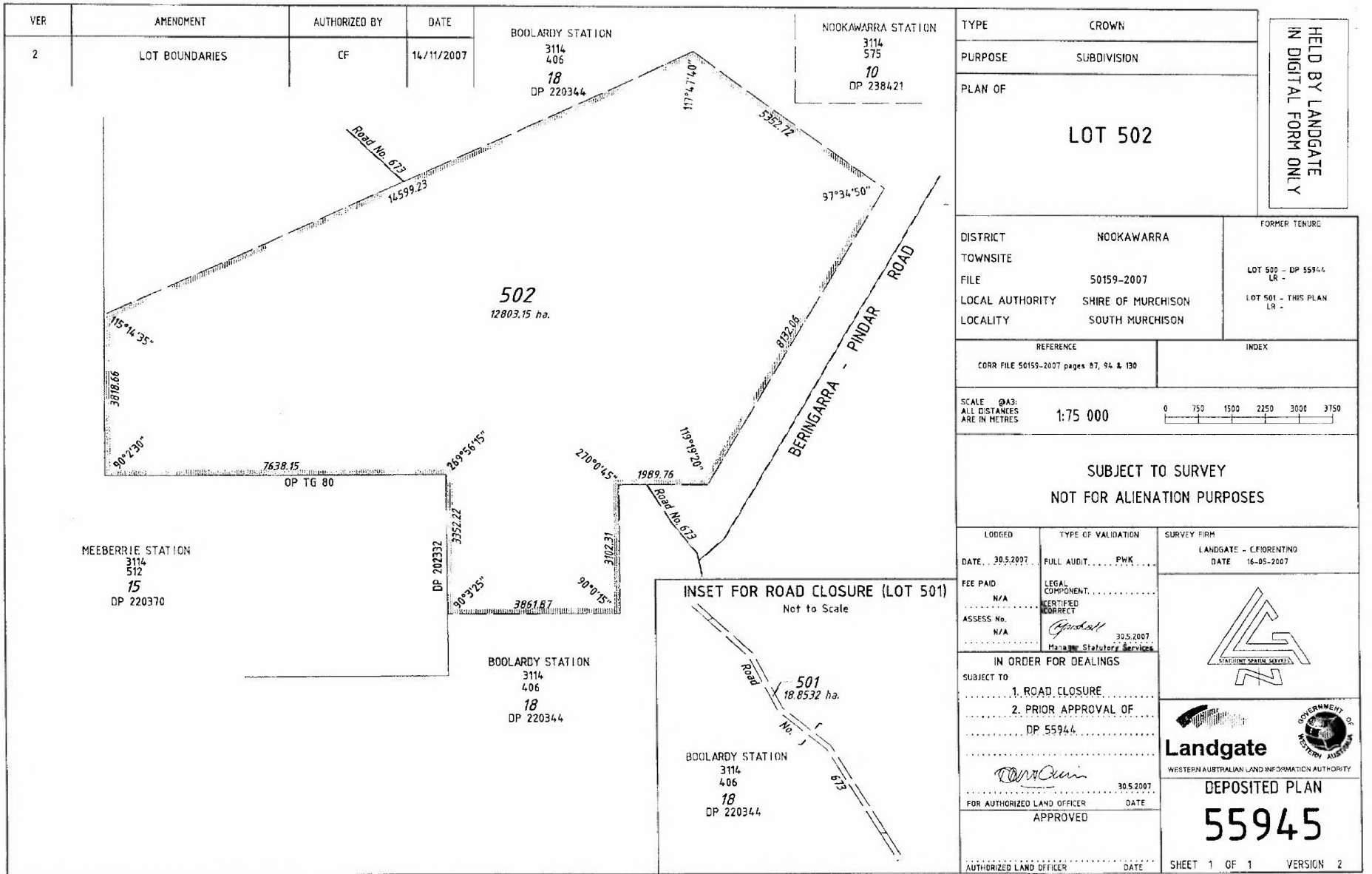
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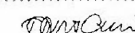
Dated this *fifth* day of *December* 2008.



Guy Verney
Delegate of the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
Branch Manager
Special Claims and Land Policy Branch
Department of Finance and Deregulation

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2	LOT BOUNDARIES	CF	14/11/2007			PURPOSE	SUBDIVISION	
						PLAN OF	LOT 502	
						DISTRICT	NOOKAWARRA	FORMER TENURE
						TOWNSITE		LOT 502 - DP 55944 LR -
						FILE	50159-2007	LOT 501 - THIS PLAN LR -
						LOCAL AUTHORITY	SHIRE OF MURCHISON	
						LOCALITY	SOUTH MURCHISON	
						REFERENCE	INDEX	
						CORR FILE 50159-2007 pages 87, 94 & 130		
						SCALE @A3: ALL DISTANCES ARE IN METRES	1:75 000	0 750 1500 2250 3000 3750
SUBJECT TO SURVEY NOT FOR ALIENATION PURPOSES								
LODGED	TYPE OF VALIDATION		SURVEY FIRM					
DATE: 30.5.2007	FULL AUDIT: PWK		LANDGATE - C.FIORENTINO					
FEE PAID	LEGAL COMPONENT		DATE 16-05-2007					
N/A	CERTIFIED CORRECT		 STATISTICAL SPATIAL SERVICES					
ASSESS No. N/A	C.F. 30.5.2007 Murchison Statutory Services							
IN ORDER FOR DEALINGS								
SUBJECT TO								
1. ROAD CLOSURE								
2. PRIOR APPROVAL OF								
DP 55944								
 FOR AUTHORIZED LAND OFFICER						DATE		30.5.2007
APPROVED								
AUTHORIZED LAND OFFICER						DATE		SHEET 1 OF 1
								VERSION 2
								DEPOSITED PLAN 55945