



**MINE FREE GLENALADALE
IS NOT AN ANTI MINING GROUP**

**IT IS A GROUP OPPOSED TO MINING IN
INAPPROPRIATE AREAS**

**GLENALADALE IS ONE SUCH
INAPPROPRIATE AREA**

**Why is the area chosen by Kalbar for their
proposed Open Cut Mineral Sands Mine
Inappropriate?**

It is within 350 meters of the heritage listed Mitchell River

**It is within 500 meters of the
\$150 million/year vegetable
growing industry in the
Lindenow Valley where
according to the Deputy Prime
Minister Michael Mc Cormack
are found 7 out of the 10 largest
vegetable growers in Australia**



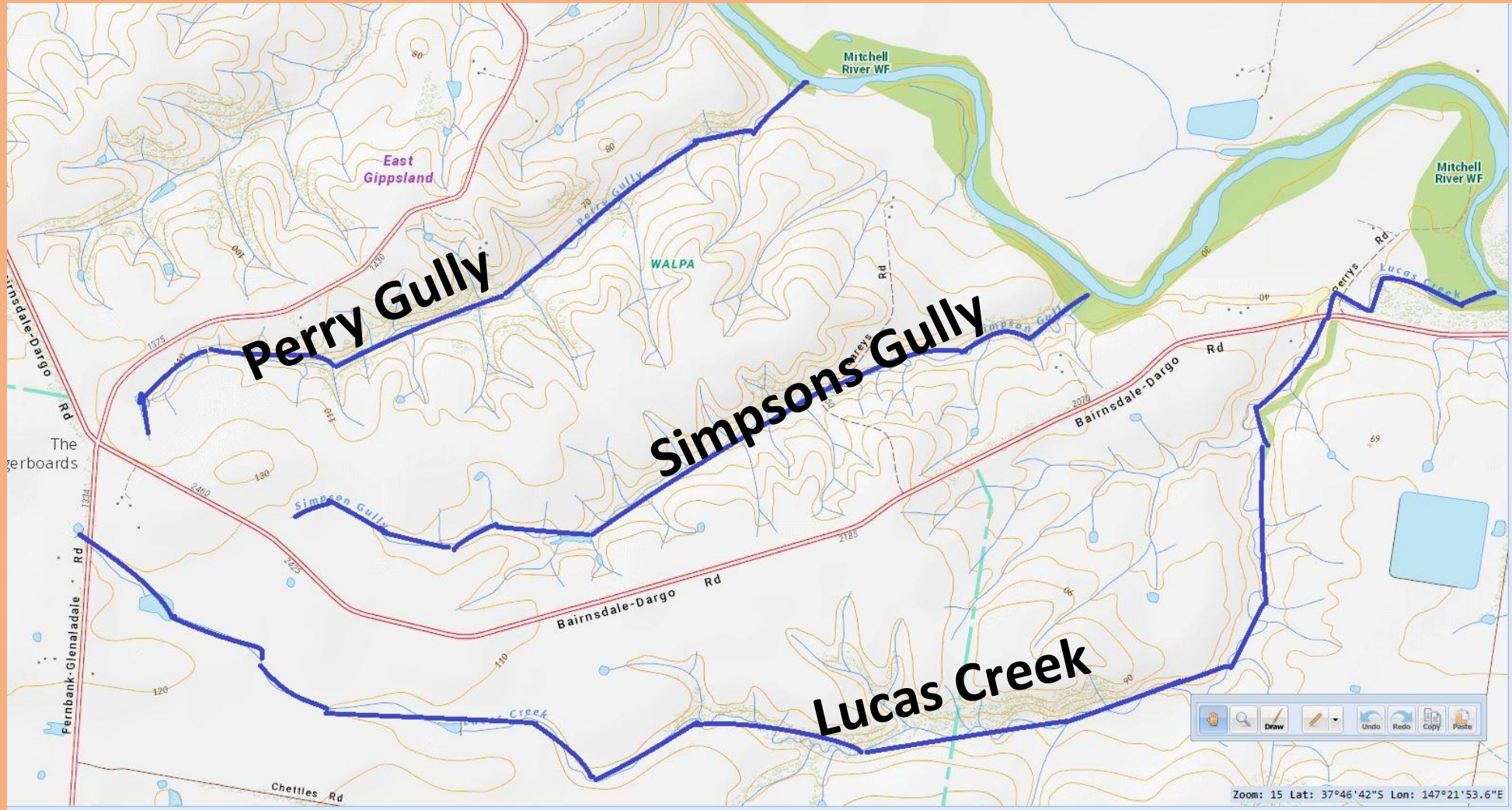
The Mitchell River is the major water source for irrigation of these “clean and green” crops grown in the Lindenow Valley

The Mitchell River flows into the Gippsland Lakes which is a major tourism drawcard for the Region

The Mitchell River flows into the RAMSAR Wetlands which are of extreme environmental significance

The Mitchell River and the nearby Woodglen storage provide reticulated water to 29 000 households and 3 500 commercial premises in the Shire

With three major gullies flowing from within Kalbar's project area into the Mitchell River there is a major risk of contamination through sediment runoff



During major rainfall events these gullies flow at up to two meters deep



With the elevation of The Fingerboards at 125 meters above sea level and the Mitchell River at 35 meters, these gullies create enormous energy and have the potential to carry large amounts of sediment

This sediment will be transported into the Mitchell River where it will be dispersed over the rich horticultural flats



**Then there is the Perry River with its Chain of Ponds.
The Tailings Dam and Processing Plant are proposed to
be located within its catchment**



**Pollution from this source has the potential to
contaminate another catchment system and enter
the Gippsland Lakes from towards the western end**

Yet Kalbar in an interview on ABC Radio tell us there is nothing to worry about because all this 60 hectare Tailings dam will contain is fine sand and clay particles

By stating this they are saying that this Tailings Dam will not contain any Heavy Metals, radioactive chemicals or traces of the ore body

This contradicts what has happened at other locations where manganese and sulphates leached into the ground water exceeding environmental standards



The same document then goes on to state *“It will take time for the manganese and sulphate levels to improve. Iluka anticipates that removal of the material will improve the groundwater over an approximate 10-20 year period”*

Mitchell River Irrigators have experienced bans on pumping from the river this summer due to drought conditions

Kalbar require water for their mining operations. Their estimates have varied from 2 to 5 gigalitres per year

So will they be competing with the fresh food producers of the Lindenow Valley for the same water?

The Federal Government has recently announced that \$10 million in the form of subsidies is available for irrigators to build water storages on their properties to improve water availability during dry times

Southern Rural Water has available 6 gigalitres of winterfill for this purpose

Are the farmers expected to compete with Kalbar for this water?



**Access to this water by vegetable growers could near
double the production in the Lindenow Valley
potentially employing at least another 1000 people in
an ongoing sustainable industry**

**Compare to this the 200 jobs that Kalbar is
offering for 15-20 years**

To put these figures into perspective, the two reservoirs at Woodglen hold 1.3 gigalitres and supply 29 000 households and 3 500 commercial premises



Kalbar's yearly water requirement could be over four times the requirements of that number of properties

The soils in the area are dispersive

They contain large amounts of sodium and are easily eroded

Trials by DELWP to control the tunnel erosion that these soils are subject to have largely in the long term failed



Mining excavation to a depth of up to 45 meters removes large amounts of soil, subsoils, gravel, rocks and general overburden

Even though the mining company claims that 95% will be returned to the pit, there is no guarantee that it can be compacted to original densities to ensure that there is no change in the topography and hydrology of the area

**Are we prepared to take the risk to have
this.....**



....turned into this



...and trust at the same time that the mining company can protect this.....?



While claims are made that dust will not be an issue, the mining company states that it will be able to control up to 90% of dust emissions

Dust emissions as a result of mine construction and operation present a potentially significant impact to the environment and nearby sensitive receptors (residences and businesses). Activities such as soil stripping and stockpiling, ore removal and emplacement, transportation of ore as well as wind erosion will all potentially contribute to dust emissions. The application of best management practices can reduce dust emissions on mine sites by up to 90%.

So what does UP TO 90% really mean?

And what is in this dust?

From Kalbar's own Analysis Reports we know that it will

contain

silica

monazite

thorium

vanadium

All of which have severe health concerns associated with them

Apart from these Kalbar intend to partially extract Rare

Earth Elements which will be sent overseas for further

processing

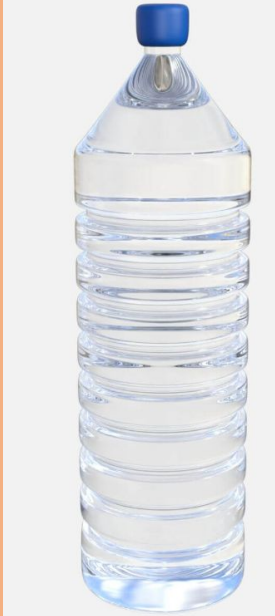
The refining of these elements is responsible for heavy concentrations

of pollution from the by-products of this process

Kalbar claim that dust will not be an issue but at the same time state in their documents that bottled water will be provided for employees



Yet they seem unconcerned that local residents are all on tank water



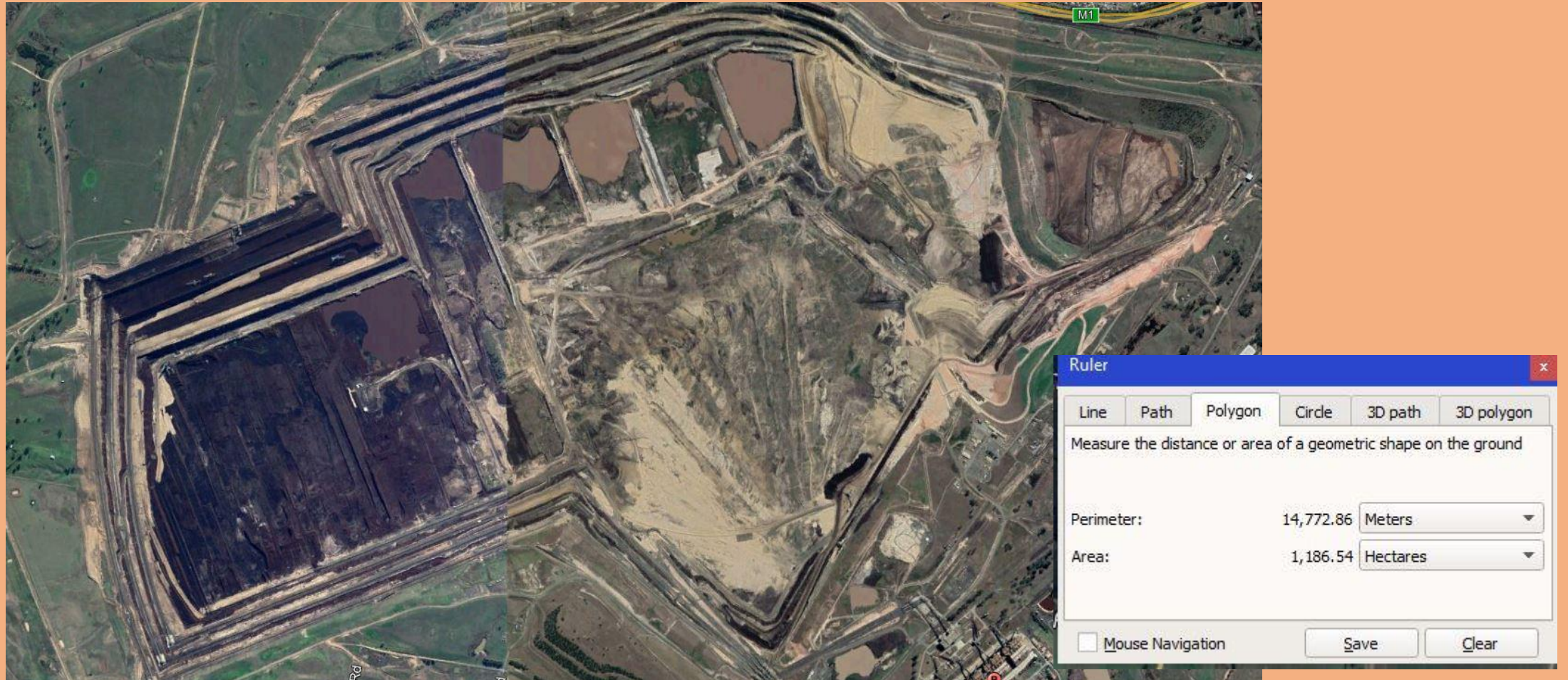
These local residents have real concerns if what was experienced at Balmoral is repeated where radiation levels in tank water increased during mining operations

While the jury may still be out on the issue of Climate Change, we have enough evidence that Greenhouse Gases are having a negative impact on our lives

From Kalbar's own admission we know that this proposed mine will produce at least 200 000 tonnes of Greenhouse gases per year

**This is the equivalent
Greenhouse Gas production
of 21 000 households**

So just how large is this mine proposal?

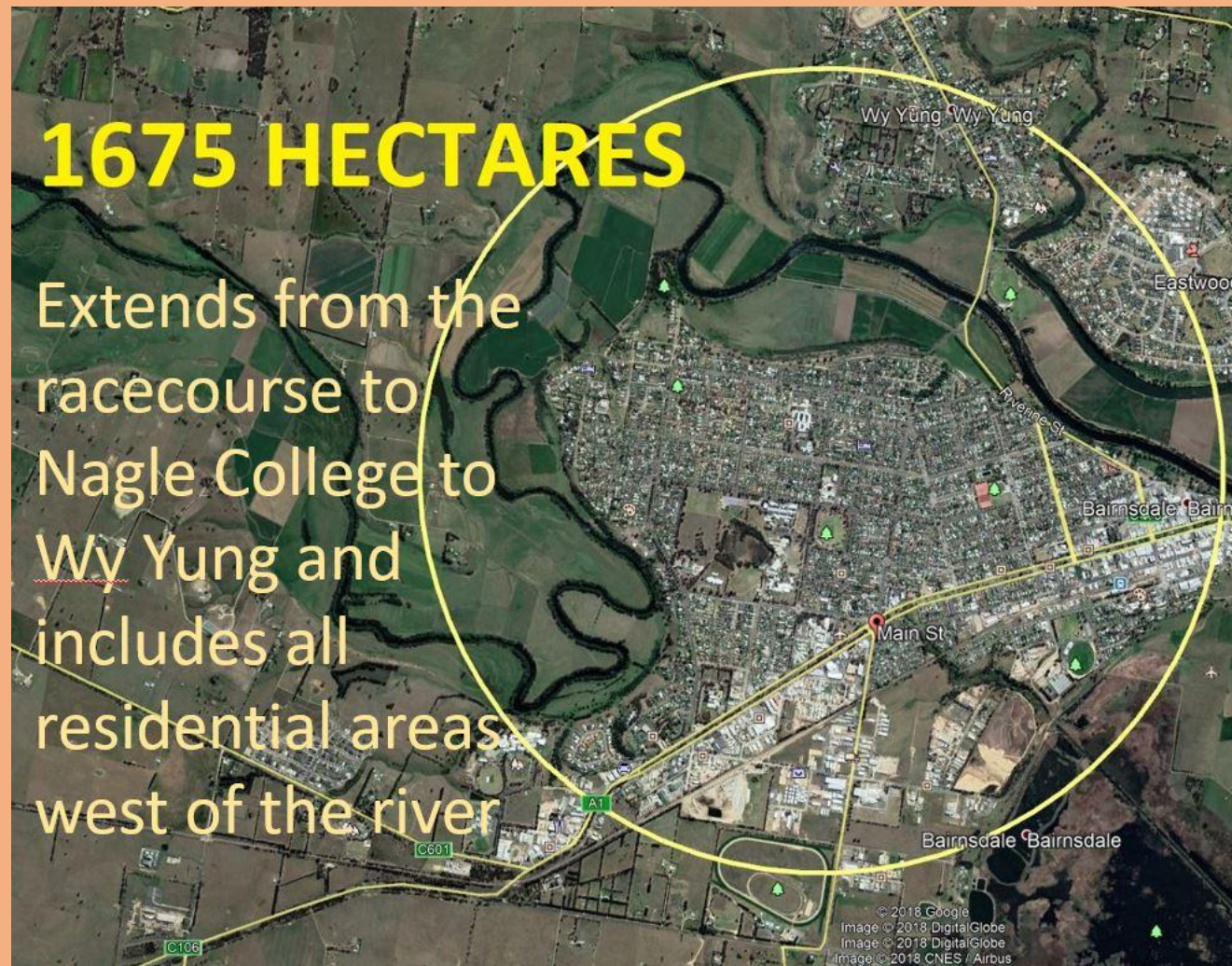


The area of the Hazelwood mine measured on Google Earth is approximately 1 186 hectares

**The total disturbed area of Kalbar's proposed project is
1675 hectares**

**That is it will be larger
in area than the
Hazelwood Coal Mine**

**But to put that
into a local
perspective, how
does that compare
to Bairnsdale?**



Kalbar has gone to great lengths to convince the community that this form of mining is compatible with agriculture and uses the North West Victorian area of Wemen as an example

However

The nearest weather stations to Wemen record an average annual rainfall of 330mm

84 mm fell on their wettest day on record

The area is flat with no runoff

The mine covered 240 hectares and operated for only four years

Wemen Topography



Glenaladale Topography



There are a number of issues not included here but hopefully they will be discussed in the Panel Session or raised by other speakers

These include but are not limited to

Noise

Traffic

Road deviations

Reduction in land values

***Damage and removal of
areas of Koorie cultural
significance***

***Loss of flora
and fauna***

Community Stress

Damage to native habitat

Question

Are we prepared to risk our current sustainable agricultural industries, our environment and community for a short term, high risk mine?



END