



Planning Panels Victoria

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

28 May 2021

1 Spring Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
GPO Box 2392
Melbourne, Victoria 3001
Telephone (03) 8624 5712

As addressed

Dear Party

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) – Possible Options for Bairnsdale Hearing

As briefly outlined on Thursday 27 May 2021, the IAC is closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation in relation to the Bairnsdale Hearings for the above project. The following options are proposed for discussion in the week commencing 31 May 2021. Please note they are not the only Options available, and any final decision will be made based on the COVID-19 situation at the time and the directions of the Chief Health Officer.

Option 1

Proceed as planned in Bairnsdale in Week 6 (Wednesday 9 June 2021) with limited parties in the room, no public gallery, submitters attending just to make their submission and live Zoom viewing of the proceedings.

Option 2

Proceed as scheduled for weeks 6-8 which were proposed as face to face as per Option 1 but convert this to a full video conference hearing as per Weeks 1-5.

Option 3

Void the in person hearing days in Weeks 6-7 (Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 June and the week of 14 June 2021). Keep Week 8 (week of 21 June 2021) as scheduled and 'leapfrog' the in person hearing days from weeks 6 and 7 to combine into a five day week (week of 28 June 2021). In this case the closings would need to occur later with dates to be determined.

As indicated previously, the IAC's strong preference is to conduct the Hearing in Bairnsdale as per Option 1 above. If this is not possible the other options will be considered. The IAC is unlikely to consider a lengthy delay (weeks to months) if the COVID-19 situation deteriorates.

If you have questions, please contact Amy Selvaraj at Planning Panels Victoria at Fingerboards.IAC@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Wimbush

Chair, Inquiry and Advisory Committee

Privacy Statement

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorised by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to the Privacy Coordinator, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002

