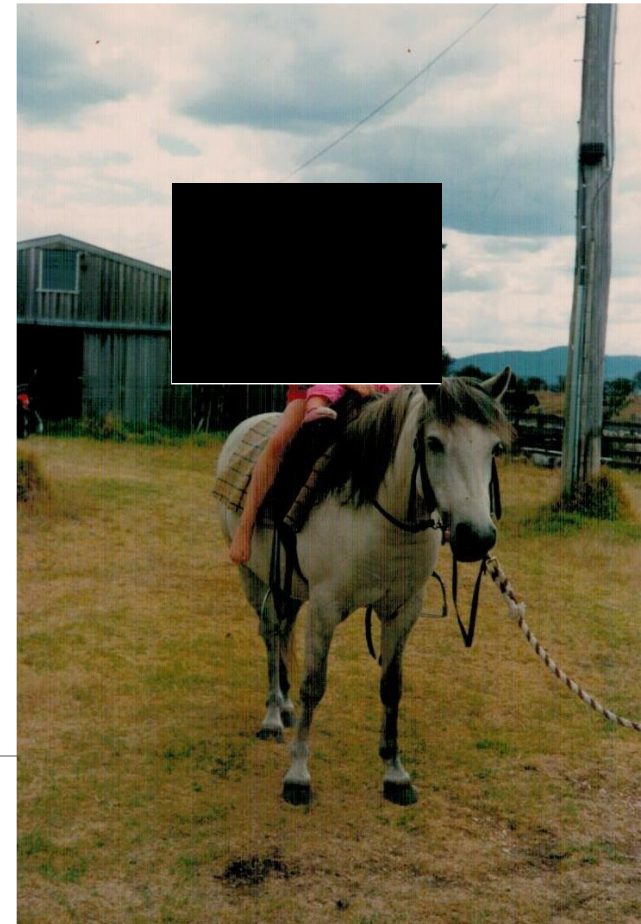


Submission to IAC regarding the Finger Boards Mineral Sands Project EES

BY HONOR MAY WALLER



The Project EES

Open pit mine

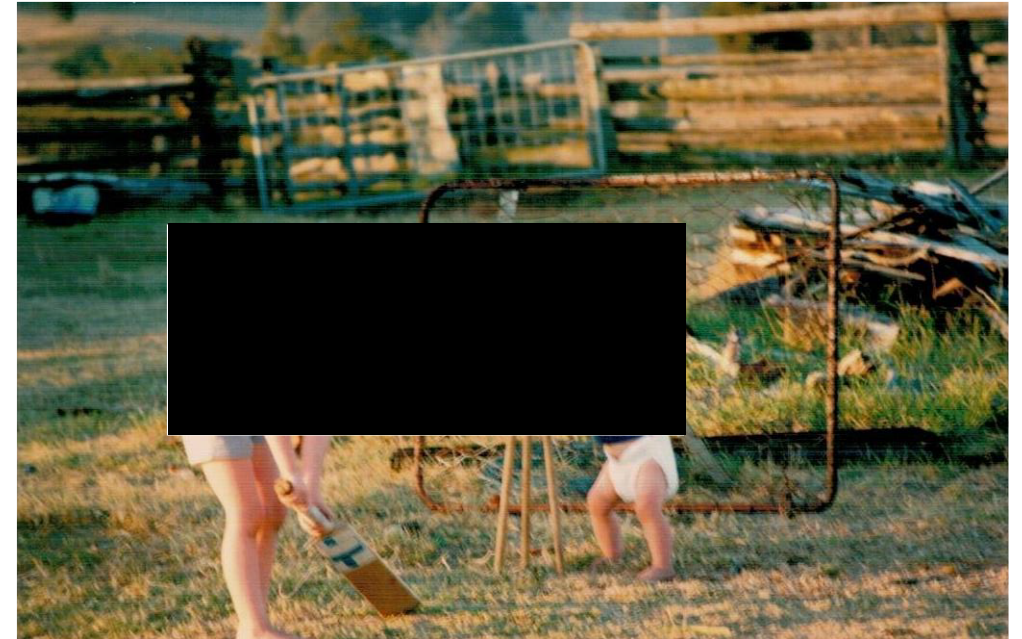
- Inappropriate site
- Does not align with the Economic, Social and Environmental objectives of the
State of Victoria

Why this project is contentious

- My Connection to the proposed mine site
- Why its an inappropriate site for a mine
- Does not align with the economic, social and environmental values of the state of Victoria

My Connection to the Mine Site

- Lived adjacent to the proposed mine site for 20 years
- Grew up in the Woodglen and Glenaladale community
- Attended Woodglen Primary School
- Worked for several vegetable farms on the Woodglen flats
- Helped shape the person I am
 - Successful Veterinary Surgeon
 - Own and run a profitable 350 cow dairy farm with my partner
 - Raising my 3 year old daughter





Why its an inappropriate site for an open pit mine p1

Effect on established businesses

- I worked on several vegetable farms on the Woodglen flats
- They are located across the Mitchell river from the proposed mine site
- Smaller businesses supported 5 to 15 workers directly through on farm jobs
- Indirectly supported truck drivers, warehouse workers, admin officers, mechanical engineers ect through their logistics supply chain
- Already contribute millions to Victoria's economy
- Heavily reliant on their products healthy reputation, water availability,
- At risk from the mine dust, contaminated water run off, lack of surface water availability, competition for water from the Mitchell River

Does not align with economic and social values of state the of Victoria

Why its an inappropriate site for an open pit mine p2

Effect on established, resilient businesses

- Mitchell River – life blood of these vegetable businesses.
 - Annual rainfall of 600 mm
 - Mine source of potential contamination from heavy metals, hazardous materials or chemical spills
 - Mix of heavy metals, radionuclides, processing chemicals and debris
- Mitchell River – irrigation water
 - Very competitive market for water- Kalbars entry only increases this

Why its an inappropriate site for an open pit mine p3

Environmental risks

- Mitchell River and Perry River Catchment from water run off, potential tailings spills
- Poor soil structure for building dams – high risk of leakage

EES refers to run off at 941 mg/L in storm events

Tailings discharges

Dust in the air to increase by 11%

Seepage from tailings dams into surface water

Seepage from tailings dams into groundwater

Why its an inappropriate site for an open pit mine p4

Environmental risks

- Temporary tailings dam – 5 year + lifespan
 - Labelled low risk of spill – but would have devastating impact
 - Sediment leaked into Mitchell and Perry river catchments, eventually lakes.
 - Affect drinking and irrigation water
- Water competition
 - Tight water market - farms, community, environment flows (fish kills, tourism)
 - Amount of water needed changed weekly by Kalbar - 4 to 6 million liters?
- Does not align with the environmental and social goals of Victoria

EES – Flawed process

- 10 000 pages for the community to read (and counting)
- Unreadable tables presented

Track Records – Mine rehabilitation

Only 1 mine has been successfully rehabilitated in Victoria

Hundred in caretaker mode

Benambra mine in East Gippsland

- Tailings dam leaking into Tambo River
- Rehab costed tax payers \$7 million

Iluka mine in Horsham – radioactive holding facility

0.5% chance this mine will be rehabilitated based on past performance

Conclusion

Not compatible with the economic, social and environmental objectives of the State of Victoria

Kalbar should be denied the right to mine a finite resource when the activity risks so much to our community and established profitable businesses in Glenaladale and Woodglen regions