



Planning Panels Victoria

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

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Melbourne, Victoria 3001
Telephone (03) 8392 5115

12 July 2021

Mr Peter Vaughan
Environmental Media Foundation
Via Email

Dear Mr Vaughan

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project: Correspondence of 2 July 2021

Thank you for your correspondence of 2 July 2021 (a redacted copy will be tabled with this letter).

Following your correspondence and in response to a request from East Gippsland Shire Council, Tabled Document 516 has been removed from the Engage Victoria website for the same reasons as outlined in the IAC's Tabled Document 539.

In relation to the other matters you raise regarding an alleged conflict of interest, the IAC is in the process of providing the corporate documents to the relevant submitters for their response.

Following their response, if one is provided, the IAC will then table the documents and the response. The IAC will consider the issues, and all relevant tabled documents, in the development of its report. Note the IAC is not proposing to **publish** these documents on the Engage Victoria website and will treat them in confidence but I reiterate they will be considered by the IAC, to the extent relevant.

Lastly, and in response to your comment that the Proponent is being elevated 'to a new category of submitter', I wish to note here and as I have attempted to explain in the Hearing, the Proponent is not a 'submitter' in the sense of the other parties in the Hearing. Any Proponent of a project has certain responsibilities to explain their case but also certain rights to respond to material put to them by other parties.

As you have seen in what is a challenging and difficult matter, the IAC is balancing the many different interests of all parties and affording procedural fairness and natural justice to all parties.

If you have any queries please contact Tom Milverton at Planning Panels Victoria at Fingerboards.IAC@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nick Wimbush

Inquiry and Advisory Committee Chair

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