

Eden Swan - Submission #744 - Speech Notes

Thank you to the IAC for accomodating to my special medical needs in regards to my re-scheduling of my appearance for this hearing. I suffer from a rare chronic auto-immune disease with multiple co-morbidities that requires frequent medical attention.

My Speech will focus on:

- My connection to The Glenaladale Region
- The personal importance of The Glenaladale Region to myself
- My position as a community member of The Glenaladale Region
- The list of devastating real world effects that The Fingerboard Mineral Sands Mine Project will cause should it eventuate

I emphasised the concept of causality and the importance of gathering both quantitative data and qualitative data. My submission to The Project is providing you qualitative data for the impacts of the real people of the region.

My speech as been written so that IAC and public understand my stance that the approval of this project will be a cruel dangerous decision for the land and people of East Gippsland (and beyond to wider Victoria) in the immediate and for many decades to come with serious health ramifications which could see this project be culpable for.

PART 1: My connection to The Glenaladale Region / The personal importance of The Glenaladale Region to myself / My position as a community member of The Glenaladale Region



A loved experience growing up in Gippsland. I have direct family ties to the area.

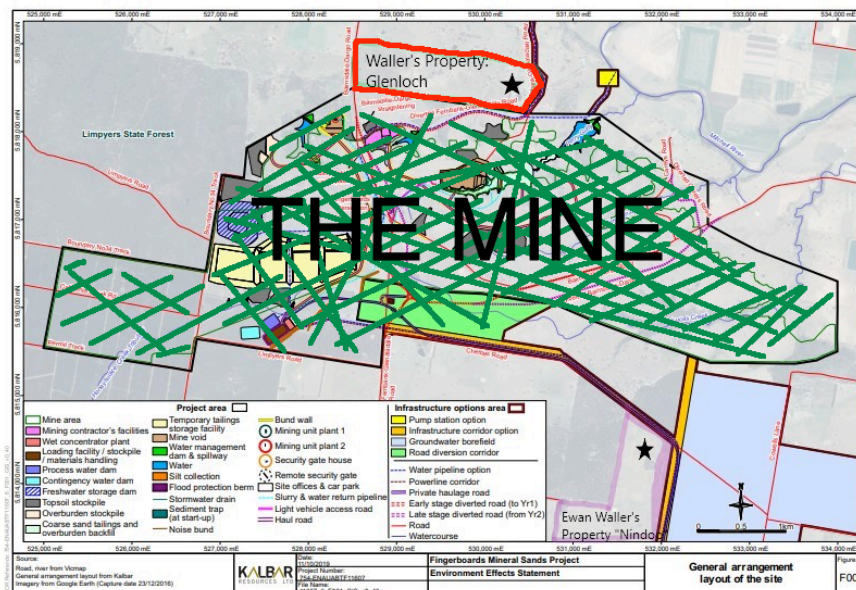
I am a 5th generation member of the area with family across Lindenow, Woodglen, Bairnsdale, Glenaladale.

I grew up as an only child to a single parent on Rathjens Road, Woodglen 3875 and I attended Woodglen Primary School. It was there I met Grace Waller and her family The Waller / Eastmans.



DUE TO DIFFICULTIES WITH MY BIOLOGICAL FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES & ILL HEALTH, IN THE 90'S THE WALLERS ESSENTIALLY TOOK ME AS THEIR OWN AND I CONSIDER MY TIME SPENT WITH THEM AS MY CHILDHOOD AT THIS PROPERTY. I therefore CALL GLENALADALE HOME AND I CONSIDER THE WALLERS MY FAMILY. The Fingerboards Mineral Sands Mine Project affects me deeply the idea of its eventuation directly threatens my home, my concept of home.

The proposed mine sits along The Waller / Eastman's family's fence-line:



PART 2: My list of devastating real world effects that The Fingerboard Mineral Sands Mine Project will cause should it eventuate.

>>> DEVASTATING AND UNRECOVERABLE IMPACTS TO SOCIAL CULTURE FOR LOCALS & THE RIPPLE EFFECT TO TOURISM OF THE REGION - IT AFFECTS EVERYBODY

- Gippsland is a beautiful place. I provided additional photos to show this, as well as reading an excerpt from my original submission describing our upbringing in Glenaladale.

“The Glenaladale area was the centre of our rural country lives growing up in that same Farmer Family Trajectory with lifestyles that matched: Our summers were spent down by The Mitchell River at The Pumping Station catching frogs. Cubby building and tree climbing up at The Pines. Riding our pet horses down to The Finger Boards for a picnic and making home-made Billy Karts for races down the big hills. When we were good, and deemed responsible enough, we helped the adults with official farm duties - herding sheep, building bon fires for burn-off season and rescuing abandoned lambs. When we were bad... We threw cow pats at each other or drove atrociously in The Paddock Bomb barely able to see over the dashboard or reach the old car's peddles. It was an idyllic time in every sense of the word; Glenloch and our lives in

Gippsland were every 'True Blue Aussie' Blundstones-Wearing, Flannel Shirt-Toting, Dot & The Kangaroo Bouncing lifestyle you could imagine."



- I emphasised that bringing a 1/2 Million KM² mine to the area (11kms x 45metres) will decimate the lifestyle I have described / displayed

Why?

> IT DAMAGES AESTHETIC AND HAS DRASTIC RECREATIONAL IMPACTS

> IT DOES NOT ALTER THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING A LOCAL, **IT ANNIHILATES IT** BECAUSE THE EXPERIENCE IS DETERMINED BY PEACEFUL AMBIANCE, IT'S DETERMINED BY UNTOUCHED VISUALS, IT'S DETERMINED BY FREEDOM AND SAFETY, FLOURISHING FARMLANDS, THIS MINE ... **IT'S NOT SUBTLE**, IT INTRINSICALLY MAKES GLENALADALE & SURROUNDS UN-LIVABLE UN-WORKABLE.

> VISUALLY IT DESOLATES THE AREA, LAND AND TREES REMOVED, WILDLIFE AND FAUNA KILLED, THERE WILL BE TRUCKS, SEMI-TRAILERS, HEAVY MACHINERY DRILLING NOISE, THERE WILL BE DUST, INSTABILITY. WITH THIS GOING ON AROUND YOU ITS NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK.

> TO WORK TO LIVE AND THIS IS PREPOSED FOR 20 YEARS ...WE KNOW WHAT 'COVID NORMAL' IS ...THIS IS 'KALBAR NORMAL' AND IT'S HELL.

THE ADDITIONAL EFFECT OF THIS IS TO VISITORS AND TOURISTS...IF LOCALS DON'T WANT TO BE THERE, TOURISTS CERTAINLY DON'T.

THIS PROJECT DOES NOT BREED HARMONIOUS AND PROSPEROUS SOCIAL CULTURE. THE VERY FOUNDATION OF HOW A COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS EVERYTHING LOCALS HAVE COME TO KNOW WILL BE OBLITERATED.

THEY WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE.

AND LIKE OUR CURRENT PANDEMIC ITS TOO HUGE, TOO CONSTANT TO BE IGNORED, IT'S NOT LIKE THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM, *IT IS THE ROOM.*

>>> ALLEGED & UNPROVEN PUBLIC BENEFIT BY KALBAR

- KALBAR KEEPS HYPING ON THE ALLEGED PUBLIC BENEFIT THEY OFFER 200 JOBS, IT'S THEIR FLAG-SHIP SELLING POINT, WHAT ABOUT THE 200+ PPL OF THE REGION that alleged public benefit is offset by? The fact that there is a disproportionate segment why should one sector bare the burden of that benefit?

I played a video, link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11THQ2LyyuEsrKxmcGLsioX-6NTW7PwAN/view?usp=sharing>

- This video is 15seconds but Kalbar expects the residents of Gippsland and surrounds to put up with this for 20 years. Kalbar justifies made made environmental disaster by providing an alleged 200 jobs.

>>> SEVERE DETRIMENT TO HUMAN HEALTH

Part 1: Mental Health

- IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE DISTRESS THIS HAS CAUSED LOCALS BY SIMPLY TESTING FOR THE MINE IS SERIOUS PLUS OVER 6 YEARS OF FIGHTING ... THE MENTAL HEALTH RAMIFICATIONS DUE TO BEING DISPLACED AND SIRUPTED IN SUCH A MJOR WAY BY A MAN MADE NATURAL DISASTER ON YOUR DOOR STEP FOR TWO DECADES. Kalbar Resources has now been championing this abomination for close to 6 years and while they have been paid to work on it's eventuation, the residents of Gippsland have had to take time off from their work to keep up.
- THERE ARE DOCTORS & SOCIAL SCIENTIST WHO CAN SPEAK ON NEGATIVE LONG TERM EFFECTS FOR EXPOSURE TO THREATS AND INSTABILITY SUCH AS THE MINE AND ITS MANIFESTATION TO COMPLEX PTSD, ANXIETY, DEPRESSION.
- BUT IT IS PROVEN THAT MENTAL ILLNESS IS AN EXPENSIVE STRAIN ON AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY, AN INCREASED WORKFORCE PRODUCTIVITY LOSS BY \$5 BILLION, APPROX \$15 BILLION PER YEAR: <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/>

Part 2: Affect to individuals with pre-existing medical conditions and/or disability

The cause of my illness has been linked to the exposure of thermoplastic dusts such as PVC, Silica etc.

I wanted to draw on a point by submitter Daniel Banks who spoke yesterday regarding aspesodos and how we worked with this material, exposed humans to this material we know categorise as toxic, same as flamidmade. We do not know what long term, 20 year exposure to Radio-Active substances including dormant Rare Earth Minerals can do for children, families, people and the way it will interact with:

- Water from The Mitchell River (which is the town's water supply) becoming contaminated from the dual use between Mine and Town along with Domestic Water Tanks and the nearby Woodglen Reservoir being contaminated, dirty drinking water
- Dust dissipating across surfaces causing respiratory sickness and causing cancer also contaminating vegetable crops grown in Lindenow Valley only 500metres away from the proposed mine location
- Mine is far too close to civilians and their activities: Families, Children and Schools impacting their health and safety and detrimental to their rural life function

LONG TERM TO BE SPREAD ONTO FOOD SUPPLY AS THEY WILL BE INGESTED, THESE CROPS GO OUT TO ALL OF VICTORIA, **THE LAST THING WE NEED IS ALL OF VICTORIA TO BE SICK LIKE ME WITH A COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEM DUE TO EXPOSURE OF TOXINS ... BELIEVE ME AS SOME ONE WHO HASN'T THE PRIVILEGED OF AN ABLE BODIED LIFE. WE ARE FRAGILE.**

Part 3: Spoiled Organic Produce

DUE TO GASTROINTESTINAL ISSUES, I HAVE MAL ABSORPTION DO HAVE TO EAT ORGANIC FOOD TO ENSURE I RECEIVE ADEQUATE VITAMINS AND MINERALS - I WONT BE ABLE TO DO THAT FROM THE REGION NOW BECAUSE HOW CAN I TRUST THIS CERTAINTY WITH A MINE 300M AWAY?

AS PREVIOUS SUBMITTER Y COLEMAN MENTIONED CARBON MONOXIDE EXPOSURE = LESSENERED NUTRIENTS IN FOOD & THAT CONCERNS ME.

Part 4: Risk Too High To Go Home

AND FINALLY AND MOST DEVASTATING DUE TO MY CONDITION I WONT BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME & VISIT, I HAVE AN APP CALLED AIR VISUAL THAT MONITORS THE AIR POLLUTION.

THOSE WITH COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEMS AND CO-MORBIDITIES AVOID THESE THINGS, COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEMS AND CO-MORBIDITIES. THIS MINE IS LIKE COVID FOR ME I HAVE TO AVOID THE THREAT.

>>> KALBAR'S LICENSE

THERE ARE LEGAL LICENSES AND THERE ARE SOCIAL LICENSES AND KALBAR HAS NO SOCIAL LICENSE HERE, WE DON'T WANT THEM HERE

- 1% ARE PRO 99% ARE AGAINST

>>> AGGRESSIVE MARKETING STRATEGY, ABUSE OF CONSUMER PSYCHOLOGY

- I provided an example of manipulative consumer psychology in the 60's via Betty Crocker's instant home cake mix "just add water", the products didn't sell because they were so simple and easy that housewives felt they were cheating, they felt guilty. So Betty Crocker re-worked their product to include "just add an egg" tapping into the core female genealogical psychology - exploiting natural impulses and then the product sold like crazy.
- Kalbar's marketing campaign has been aggressive and it seems nothing is sacred as I located this image on their public FB page - their equivalent of Betty Crocker's egg:
- Plus FB comment by Shelly:



Did you know that MINERAL SANDS are a key ingredient in face paint?

The Fingerboards mineral sands deposit contains ilmenite and rutile. Both minerals are dark-coloured which, when processed, become white and opaque.

Known as titanium dioxide (TiO₂) when processed, it is an essential component of consumer products and primarily used as a whitening pigment in paints, plastics and paper.



Kalbar Fingerboards Project 19 May · 🌐

Did you know that mineral sands are a key ingredient in face painting?

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Shelly [Redacted]
Using kids to sell destruction and ecocide of kids' environment and future.

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Write a comment... 😊 🎬 🗨️

SUMMARY:

I THINK THE IAC HAS HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO SEE ALOT OF AUTHENTIC VOICES OF THE EAST GIPPSLAND REGION, REAL PEOPLE, TRUE LIVES, HONEST LIVES REAL PLACES, THE WORK OF THOSE WHO KEEP OUR NATION MOVING, THIS ISN'T THE REWARD FOR HARD WORK.

Joanne who was a School Teacher at Bairnsdale Secondary School for the greater part of a decade and her husband Ewan Waller who was Chief Fire Officer for DSE (DEWLP) AND FAMERS The Waller's Legacy can still be felt,Rhys is now a Civil Engineer and handles contracts for Melbourne Water, Honnie is now a Veterinarian and Dairy Farmer, Yvette works for The Red Cross and Grace is a Forest and Wildlife Officer.

ITS THE FAMILIES LIKE THE WALLERS AND SURROUNDS WHO HAVE CULTIVATED THE LAND FOR OVER 100 years TO SERVE VICTORIA AND ALL OF AUSTRLIA SO FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO APPROVE THIS - WHAT KIND OF MESSAGE DOES THAT SEND FROM OUR OWN GOVERNMENT TO ITS MOST VALUABLE PEOPLE? ABOUT OUR OWN COUNTRIES CULTURE? IS THIS HOW WE THANK THOSE WHO HAVE SELF HANDEDNLY KEPT THE COUNTRY MOVING? FOOD ON OUR PLATES, WATER IN OUR TAPS?

I THINK THE KICKBACK TO THIS SHOWS HOW SERIOUSLY THE COMMUNITY OPPOSES THE MINE, HOW SERIOUSLY IT WILL BE AFFECTED, HOW SERIOUSLY BAD IT WIL BE IF IT GOES AHEAD

AND I THINK WE SPEAK AS AN AUTHENTIC AND INTIMATE VOICE TO THE AESTHETIC AND SPIRIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

To quote from my submission:

The health and functionality of Gippsland's entire Farming Region including it's inhabitants will soon cease to exist... it will be a slow and painful annihilation to agriculture, livelihood, tourism, community and health. A ripple effect via land contamination. This mine will rapidly reverse, via the "15 year life span" it promises, the 100+years of hard work done to create sustainable farm land that can be constantly regenerated, replacing it with something barren and unliveable: this will affect everyone.

This project has got all of the 'non-plussed disregard, devoid-of-humanity' elements crucial to any regrettable narrative that ends in harm. The Kalbar Mine proposal is quite simply a plan to decimate place and the lives within it irreversibly.

