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**Request to be heard?:** Yes

**Full Name:** Jennifer Jane Toye

**Organisation:**

**Affected property:**

**Attachment 1:**

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members, this submission is about the EES for the Fingerboards mineral sands mine project. I strongly oppose the mine, for the reasons outlined. \* I have lived in East Gippsland since 1972. \* A mine in our food bowl?? It should not happen, common sense tells us it will have environmental impacts. \* The mine will use, 3 billion litres of water annually for up to 15 years. Our rivers and catchments are under stress now, we can't afford to sustain a new mine using SO much water. \* Gippslanders have lived through major drought and bush fires and likely will again as our weather becomes more extreme. The aquifer which belongs to us all, its likely to be compromised in the long term, how long will the aquifer take to fill once it's depleted? \* Dust control from the mine will use lots of water, Kalbar Operations has acknowledged there are radioactive substances being mined. If left below ground level these do not pose a health risk, once excavated and crushed the dust poses a health risk to everyone down wind of the mine, as it is situated where prevailing winds flow over Vegetable farms and to Bairnsdale. \* Can you guarantee 15 years of dust will not accumulate in my body? Because Gippsland is experiencing wilder stronger winds these days. \* I don't trust the information in the EES, what was the laboratory asked to analyse? Contamination and health risks are a real concern we don't want to add a bigger cancer burden to the community. \* The tailings dam of 90 hectares, will contain mine waste and flocculant chemicals their safety data sheets are harmful to aquatic life. \* The tailings dam is located on high ground above two rivers. Water finds it's own way down through soil and into to sea via rivers and aquifers. \* A one in a 100-year flood, could see tailings waste & flocculants released into the creeks/rivers with the climate changing we are likely to have major floods and more fires in the near future- the risks are considerable given examples of dam failures like the Benambra mine. \* The Woodglen Reservoir where domestic and commercial water is stored for the whole Shire is 3.5kms downwind from the mine. I can drink the dust too-great! \* The landscape of the area will never be replaced; offsets can't address this loss. Full rehabilitation rarely happens as companies on sell at an opportune time and new owners are not liable to regenerate the land. \* In amendment C it states the development of infrastructure outside the mine site is required to support the mine, this needs the endorsement of the East Gippsland Shire council. \* Council elections are running now so a decision should not be made until we get a new council in place. \* The project components are currently prohibited or subject to permit in the East Gippsland Planning Scheme. Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. Regards Jennifer Toye