
Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Sally Friend

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: Stop Kalbar Submission The Fingerboards Mineral Sands Mine must not be allowed to proceed. As a fourth generation Gippslander from a farming family I implore you to cease the facilitation of the the proposed mineral sands mine for the following reasons. 1. The site is totally inappropriate : Farming activity, including the vegetable industry will be decimated by the mine operations. 2. Hundreds of irreplaceable native trees will be destroyed. Many of them are well over a hundred years old and have cultural significance to our indigenous population. 3 The proximity to the pristine Mitchell River is so close by that pollution will flow and eventually reach the very delicate Gippsland Lakes. 4. There are closely settled farming communities which will be forced to relocate from their viable farming properties. Unlike other areas, such as south western NSW where mineral sands are mined, these farmers rely on relatively small acreages to provide a living for themselves. 5. Dust will be a serious issue for humans, animals and force valuable vegetable growers off their farms. How could you possibly have toxic dust particles settling on delicate lettuce crops? These types of vegetables provide food to some of Australia's most lucrative fast food outlets. Apart from that, grasses and pastures would be inedible and poisonous to any stock. Hence regular grazing farming would become inoperable! 6. Water usage is an issue. Apart from using millions of gigalitres, the issue of runoff as previously mentioned, would have serious implications for the environment and any local farmers who were able to maintain their farming operations. 7. Liveability would be compromised. Many young families would move from the area rather than put their children's health at risk by living in such a toxic environment. 8. Finally, the fact that Kalbar is predominantly foreign owned means that Australia's profits would be minimal and short term. This would come at a huge cost to the local residents, farmers, the environment and finally the economy of the region. I implore you to stop this operation in such a delicate area. Find an area that will not be impacted to such an extent to mine mineral sands. There are other options. Keep East Gippsland as pristine as possible. The Latrobe Valley has already been impacted by industrial development at the expense of human health and the environment. Please don't make the same mistake at the Fingerboards! Sally Friend.