

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

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Request to be heard?: No - but please email me a copy of the
Timetable and any Directions

Full Name: Amanda Roberts

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1: Submission_EES_K

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: See attached submission

Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee Members

Re: The Environmental Effects Statement (EES) for the Fingerboards Mineral Sand Mine Project.

I wish to convey that I am opposed to the Fingerboards Mineral Sand Mine, I am concerned that the mineral sand mine will have devastating effects to my local community of East Gippsland.

I was born in Bairnsdale, and I have always thought of East Gippsland as my home, as I love its natural beauty and all it has to offer. I now have a family of my own, and as a family we like to spend time bush walking, bike riding, and enjoying the rivers and the lake system. It saddens me to think that the applicants for the proposed mine would even think about going ahead with so many risks involved to the community and the environment.

The EES cannot be assured that the project will not have a long term detrimental effect to the water catchment, and river system, nor guarantee that the food bowl in Lindenow / Glenaladale will not be adversely effected by the radioactive dust and other waste materials from the proposed mine. Kalbar's geochemistry report lists a number of radioactive and cancer causing substances that will be present in the dust generated. I believe that the risk is far too great to the food bowl in which is as close as 500metres downwind from the proposed mine. This highlights the potential of the radioactive dust gaining access into our water supply (via surface water, ground water and tank water); posing health risks via human consumption or recreation, and not to mention the marine life. There is also potential risk of leakage of the mine pollutants into the aquifers and flowing into local rivers Perry and Mitchell Rivers; and then into our lake system. Short term investigations (according to the EES) may state that they have no adverse effects on the environment, however the risk for future generations and the environment is far too great.

There is also the issue of the water consumption to control the dust, with the amount of water used on the mine taken from bores aquafer and the Mitchell River to add up to 3GL annually. This could result in tighter restrictions on users reliant on the water, and it is likely to impact the health of the Gippsland Lakes from reduced fresh water.

The mine would also remove over 700 trees threatening habitat, and the excavation of the mine is down to 45 metres , it would be impossible to measure the destruction, the area will never get back to its original state. There is no guarantee that the mine will rehabilitation will occur, and there is too much risk of potential abandonment.

It is also unacceptable to allow compulsory acquisition of the land, the mine is also expected to operate day and night, think of the locals, and what this will do to our farmers, and the flow on effects through to our community. The roads will also be busier with an estimated 40 return B-double truck trips per day from the mine site to the first delivery point which may cause unnecessary dangers to other road users.