Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee - EES

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

Full Name: David Christopher Fry

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: We live on the shore of Lake Victoria. Our daughter, her husband and children live in Bairnsdale. Most of our friends live in, and love, this region. We are outraged and appalled that we are required to defend ourselves against such an absurd proposal. I don't intend to list the risks or the citizens already and potentially affected, as I'm sure the panel is well aware of them. Forty thousand words of EES paid for by the company cannot talk them away. My concerns, resulting in a great deal of stress and many sleepless nights, are that I can't believe that in fifteen years or so of operation there won't be one human mistake, equipment failure, malfunction of safety mechanism or serious natural event. The consequences of any of these at this site could be catastrophe. Can you imagine a less suitable location for such an undertaking? I still find it hard to believe it has been allowed to progress as far as this. Even proposed oil drilling on the Great Barrier Reef posed a smaller range of risks. It doesn't, for instance, lie immediately upstream of the water supply of 20,000 or so people. It doesn't risk releasing radioactive dust into the air near residents and a vegetable growing community, and, whilst a mishap would affect an iconic treasure, a leak would be freer to dissipate than a leak into a river feeding a precious inland waterway. The Gippsland Lakes are already under pressure from many quarters and there is NO "acceptable" level of additional risk from a mine such as this. This outrageous proposal has resulted in a great deal of stress for many people, as you will no doubt hear from others. I implore you to advise the Minister that there is no way in which this mine can proceed safely.