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

Full Name: Carey Mudge

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: I do not support the Fingerboards Mineral Sands project. This project shows no appreciable benefit, short term or long, to the communities of East Gippsland. There are no significant infrastructure upgrades nominated as part of the development and no long term economic benefits that serve any party other than the operators of this mine. East Gippsland has a history of failed mineral projects, projects such to the zinc copper mine in Benambra, that left whole communities devastated when bankruptcy closed the mine after only 4 years and who's only lasting legacy was a polluted slag and tailings heap that, controversially, other enterprises seek to pick over the remnants of. What guarantees are there that this Fingerboards Mineral Sand mine would provide any more economic certainty in a region already mostly ignored by the economic powers of the state than the mine in Benambra did? What could be worth the 1,600 hectare open cut scar on the landscape? To pillage the ground to merely export this resource? It is easy to say that 200 local jobs will be created and that supply chain flow on effects will be beneficial to the local economy but aside from sounds bits on websites there is little evidence to show that this operator has any concern for local jobs. Further the 200 new jobs referenced are over the life of the 15-20 year cycle, approximately 10-15 jobs a year? How many jobs will be lost directly and through the supply chain if the environmental impacts are as serious and devastating as they appear to be in Kalbars EES submission? There is little evidence the open cut mines can be rehabilitated and given that 96% of the material removed from the site is potentially to be return the risks of contamination for decades to come. Simply put, the risks to public health, the potential damage to the agricultural industry, which is the largest employer in the immediate area of the proposed mines location, the detrimental vehicular pollution, the significant environmental impacts and the destruction of cultural heritage landscapes just do not outweigh the minimal economic benefits as touted by Kalbar. The numbers just don't stack up and no amount of 10,000 page reports or industry case studies or technical reports will change the fundamental fact that this projects is nothing more than a cynical, self-serving, foreign capital led attempt to exploit East Gippslands mineral reserves.