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

Full Name: Toyah Horman

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: I stand in opposition to the proposal of the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project. The proposed project poses a large number of risks - economic, environmental and social - with those risks being exposed in great detail by the local community over the past few years. Economic - the shortsighted nature of the project means the mine will only be in action for 20 years, employ only a small amount of local persons, and exclude the overall community from the profits made by the project with the majority going to external contractors not located in East Gippsland. In comparison, local farming families have benefited from the sustainable use of land for over 150 years, and will continue to do so if it is kept safe and intact, ensuring longterm financial benefits to locals and the local community. Further to this, the nearby Lindenow farming flats are one of the largest employers of people in the area (up to 2,000 individuals), and producing vegetables for Victorians and even further afield in some instances. The environmental risks to these flats including contamination, lack of water supply and soil erosion are all real possibilities if the mine is to go ahead, reducing employment opportunities simultaneously. Environmental - the environmental risks associated with the mine are potentially devastating not only to the nearby communities, but the large local centre of Bairnsdale and the towns that access water supplies from the Mitchell River. It has been proven that wind directions tend to blow dust from the mines proposed location into these communities - once contaminated with poisonous contents from the mine, this dust poses countless health risks to locals. These poisonous elements also run the risk of infecting our local water supplies, infecting the land and livestock where people irrigate, where people fish, where our local fauna drink from. Further to this, the mine plans to use an enormous amount of water to run the mine - water taken from our drought stricken farmers and from our thirsty wildlife. Water is a lifeline to regional communities, and with the growing impacts from climate change, is a vital necessity to ensure long term sustainability in our regions. The overarching contributions from the mine to greenhouse gases alone should be enough for this project to be stopped in its tracks. Investing in sustainable business, especially in rural area, is absolutely necessary right now if we are to slow the effects of climate change. Please look at the bigger picture and the damaging long term effects this mine will have on the local community. It is time to start focusing on how we can work with our environment to ensure its safety for future generations and long-term viability for all, rather than short term monetary gains for a selected few.