## **Submission Cover Sheet**

**279** 

## 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: Cynthia Scott

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

**Comments:** 

Although I have not resided in East Gippsland for many years, I am still strongly bonded to the region of my birth and school days. The Mitchell River flats, covering many hectares, are a welcome sight whenever I return, with the rows of growing vegetables and flowers, or crops of animal fodder. I am appalled at the plan by Kalbar to take over 1,675 hectares of high country in the Mitchell River catchment for an open cut mine. The river is so important to the livelihood of this region, providing fresh water for the crops, Bairnsdale and surrounding communities, and for flushing out the salt and poisonous muck from the Gippsland Lakes system. The region's population is growing as it is a wonderful place to live, with great infrastructure, tourist attractions, and climate. So the need for a good water supply will continue to grow, so the pollution of the river, and the air, which will be the results of this proposed mine cannot be allowed to happen. The loss of so many mature age trees from this huge area under threat will not only reduce the volume of clean run-off into the river, but is a direct affront for the important push to protect or reforest the large tracts of native bush lost in the recent bush-fires. And the science of climate-change is telling us that these massive fires will become more frequent in the future.