Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee - EES

sincerely Kate Luchetta

Request to be heard?: No	
Full Name:	Katherine Jane Luchetta
Organisation:	
Affected property:	
Attachment 1:	
Attachment 2:	
Attachment 3:	
Comments:	I would like to submit my opposition to the proposed mineral sand mine at Glenaladale. I have been following community discussion and observing the response from Kalbar representatives . As a prior Community Health nurse , I feel I cannot just ignore the impact this mine would have on our community if it is allowed to go ahead . Residents of East Gippsland rely on the Mitchell river , not just for drinking water but to irrigate pastures and crops in the Lindenow food bowl area . These vegetables are a major source of industry , employment and food for the people of Bairnsdale and surrounds . We pride ourselves on being able to grow fresh and healthy produce . The incompatibility of a mine so closely situated , seems ludicrous . Toxic pollutants from tailings and dust would pollute those areas and not only our economy but maybe not initially but I predict down the track the overall health of residents could suffer as a result of ingestion and inhalation of both water run off and airborne pollutants . Blue green algae in the Lakes system is already a problem that needs monitoring . My own son as a young boy developed sarcoidosis from contact with contaminated water and now as an adult lives with this limiting autoimmune condition . I also run an accomodation business and think that tourists come here for fresh air , green hills and bushland , and clean rivers to boat and fish and swim in . (Every second person I know loves to fish !) If this was spoilt by run off of toxic tailings into our lake system then it would take many many years to restore the tourism and recreational fishing industry. A polluted lakes system stretching from Paynesville to Lakes Entrance would be lost . Land values would go down . I think especially after experiencing the effects of the bushfires and Covid -19 pandemic , a thriving healthy community is something Bairnsdale should be proud of .and not be willing to risk . Being able to live well in this community, and promote this area to visitors is an asset we should not take for granted

