

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

570

Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Pam Readford

Organisation:

Affected property: [REDACTED]

Attachment 1: StopMiningKalbar.

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: See attached submission

29/10/2020

Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members,

I am writing in response to the EES conducted by Kalbar for the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Mine Project. I have lived/live in the area/this is my connection to the area/why it is special to me/how close I live to the mine site.

These are the reasons below I do not believe the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Mine Project should go ahead at Glenaladale, East Gippsland:

- Kalbar's geochemistry report lists a number of radioactive and cancer-causing substances that will be present in the dust generated. Dust can travel far so this potentially could affect the entire district. The mine is too close to where many families live, farm, work and go to school, it is a highly inappropriate area.
- Could other jobs be created instead? Based on irrigation data, if the 3 billion litres of water Kalbar requires annually was redirected to growing vegetables, 3 times more jobs could be created than Kalbar's proposal. These would be long-term sustainable jobs to grow food. According to National Farmers Federation statistics, every job created in agriculture leads to 4.2 indirect jobs. From Kalbar's website, 1 mining job leads to 1 indirect job.
- 13 square kms on a plateau which is above the Heritage listed Mitchell River and the vegetable fields of the Mitchell River Valley is to be mined up to 45m deep. If there is runoff there are risks of the river being contaminated, impacting on the crops, fishing, agriculture, the health of the rivers and the Gippsland Lakes (an important Ramsar-listed wetland).
- The Mitchell River, the source of water to irrigate those vegetables and make ice to transport them is 350m downwind (between the mine and the vegetable fields).
- The pre-existing residential and agricultural land use needs to be recognised for this area. Noise from a mine operating 24 hours a day 7 days a week will be untenable and very stressful.
- Removal of over 700 large mature trees. Flora and fauna species are threatened.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely,

Pam Readford