Submission Cover Sheet

596

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: Hendrik Forster

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1: Dear_Inquiry_and

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments:

Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members, I am writing this submission about the EES for the Fingerboards mineral sands mine project. Having lived in East Gippsland for over 40 years I strongly oppose the mine for the following reasons. An open-cut mine in close proximity to one of Australia's prime fruit and vegetable growing areas is against all principles of economic and environmental common sense. East Gippsland is a food basket for markets right around eastern Australia, especially Sydney and Melbourne. It not only provides jobs and a living for the local population, but also food for the nation. The impact of the mine in terms of air pollution and water contamination would be absolutely catastrophic. It would destroy the economic base of this region, a multitude of diverse small businesses and endanger the health of East Gippsland's residents. Being downwind of the Latrobe Valley puts enough pressure on the population's health. The EES does in no way address worst case scenarios of the mine in terms of floods or droughts, which we experience on a regular basis, and their environmental impact. These issues are not scientifically researched, but glossed over with vague promises and weasel words. To allow compulsory acquisition of private land for a private business to be used for infrastructure that is located outside the mining project boundary is reminiscent of East Germany and the Soviet Union and completely contradictory to the principles of our society. I thank the Panel members for the opportunity to make this submission, Hendrik Forster.

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