Submission Cover Sheet

698

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee - EES

Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Craig Alexander Sutherland

Organisation:

Affected property: Woodglen 3875

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments:

 CLAIMS ABOUT AVAILABILITY OF WATER We are concerned about transparency and consistency. As a family farm with a holding at Woodglen, we have been advised by SRW that a winter fill licence is not available at the moment and that there are no new irrigation licences to be issued; only for stock and domestic. Our understanding is that there are no irrigation licences currently available, nor will there be in the future. • RUN OFF FROM THE MINE We understand that water can be diverted and stored on site. Our concern focusses on the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of these works should anything happen to the company or should the mining be interrupted or cease. • OVERFLOW Concerned that overflow water from dams containing water that has been in contact with the mine, will contain toxins that would be deposited in the Mitchell River. These may be at low levels, but in the case of a catastrophic failure of a dam, would lead to large quantities of sediment ending up in the waterways. We are also concerned that these deposits will accumulate over time. • AIR QUALITY As growers of pasture and stock feed, our products are not washed before they are consumed. How will we monitor the levels of toxins in pasture and hay, and in both our breeding stock and those intended for human consumption? • AIR QUALITY Our concern is that severe Westerly changes will lead to raised dust from the site which cannot be mitigated. • AIR QUALITY A concern that Kalbar includes a risk value of radioactive materials being emitted or leaked into the environment from the site. To ensure the health of their personnel, they will require them to undergo protective measure to reduce or minimise radiation exposure. It is recognised that radiation will therefore occur. There appears to be no protection, support or monitoring available to those farming outdoors within a close radius of the mine site. • COMMUNITY CONSULTATION We contest the claim that communication has occurred with all land holders within a close radius of the mining site. We farm property within 2 kilometres of the North East edge of the site and not once have we been contacted by a Kalbar representative. It appears that a large proportion of the agricultural and horticultural information has been obtained from a limited sample of farming businesses. • SOCIOECONOMIC We are worried by the potential effect that the 24 hour operation will have on our mental health and the life style of not only us, but all local family that have made the deliberate choice to live in an environment free from noise, heavy traffic, polluted air, and bright artificial night light. Our connection to our rural landscape and life style will disappear. There are 2 primary schools very close to the site that will produce traffic, noise, and dust which may impact the safety of the students and their educational outcome.

