

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

703

Request to be heard?: No - but please email me a copy of the
Timetable and any Directions

Full Name: Leanne Dyson

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1: Leanne_Dyson_EE

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: Submission electronically submitted.

29th October 2020

Attention:

Inquiry & Advisory Committee Panel Members

Response to the Environmental Effect Statement (EES)
Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd Mineral Sands Project, Fingerboards, Glenaladale,
East Gippsland

Author: Leanne Dyson

4th generation Bairnsdale/East Gippsland resident

Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members,

I acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai, Monero and the Bidawel people as the Traditional Custodians of the land that encompasses East Gippsland Shire.

I pay my respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in East Gippsland, their Elders past and present.

I am writing this submission as my response to the Environmental Effects Statement for Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd (KOPL) Fingerboards mineral sands mine project.

I unequivocally oppose this project for the reasons stated below.

- **Cultural Heritage both Indigenous and European has not been adequately addressed.**

Surveyance of the proposed mining site by KOPL cultural heritage researchers (Andrew Long & Associates), has confirmed the probability, due to the discovery of some artefacts and the proximity to river and landscape, that more aboriginal artefacts are very likely to be present. Acknowledgement by KOPL , of the probable existence without any reservation to reconsider their mining proposal, is unacceptable.

The risk of destroying what has been physically discovered and the high probability of yet to be discovered artefacts, alongside evidence Aboriginal and/or European occupation , confirmed and acknowledged, in the Heritage Assessment Report, cannot be ignored or compromised.

- **EES terminology—Sensitive Receptors**

The usage of 'sensitive receptors' fails to identify the *human element*. The Reports, in my view, clearly results in the dehumanization of residents, families and East Gippslanders' located close to the Fingerboards project. All reports avoid using the terms people, homes, lives and livelihoods. The usage of the term *sensitive receptor* and *receptor population* are in fact humans as well as structures .

The term 'habitat' is used in reference to where animals live, alongside the species of animals, has been identified, in specific terms, but the presence of people or a person is lumped together as a descriptor of a structure or area. Dictionaries describe a 'receptor' as a 'physiology' term, i.e. "*an organ or cell able to respond to light, heat, or other external stimulus and transmit a signal to a sensory nerve*". This supports the critical element that KOPL minimisation, intentional, or by the guidelines of scientific/reporting guidelines, eliminates the significant presence of humans—life.

This practice, as a mining framework of operation, is unacceptable, when mining is so close to a community. A community that holds a history and continues to work towards a future.

Community. The interpretation of what a community is, its function and embodiment and the understanding of why and how a community exists has been sanitised. KOPL has communicated benefits of the mining project, on the grounds of funding various community entities (e.g. Cricket Club, CFA) to convey that they 'understand what community is and needs,'

This is, in my view, manipulative marketing that is reactive, rather than proactive, in regards to what Glenaladale and East Gippsland community needs are. Community is about sustainable, healthy and risk free living. KOPL project, as a mining venture, like all mining ventures, bring greater hardship to the community. Hardship that will present itself, with health, life style and environmental costs. Without health, without a sustainable future, this community will not need a CFA or Cricket Club—people will either leave or not engage due to health and loss of livelihood, due to the toxic impact on the primary/horticultural landscape.

The proponents misconceptions that money fixes all and that compensation with a monetary figure attached is regressive form of repairing damage caused by them. This attitude and mindset is not acceptable.

- **Human health at high risk.** The potential health risks across all facets of KOPL 's proposed project are alarming. With PM 2.5, PM 10, radiation, pollution of household water, crops, stock, significant increase in noise, traffic and lights (due to the 24/7 operations), WILL impact human health. This impact is going to be occurring for up to 15 -20 years. The accumulative costs and impact is far beyond tolerable, and must be considered in this decision making process.

There will be a cost on the already stretched health system, particularly in this region. The costs will be inclusive of physical and mental health, and financial capacity of our community to manage health risks. Catastrophic bush fires, the impacts of drought , the Coronavirus pandemic are going to be continual challenges. East Gippsland doesn't need any long term or additional 'natural disasters.' KOPL public meetings have been devoid of presenting these long-term and critical facts. This is a lack of integrity and transparency.

KOPL conduct in the community.

In attending the KOPL public information sessions, over three years, has consistently raised questions in regards to such matters as 'toxic dust', alongside addressing health and environmental issues. The responses have consistently been avoidant, or masked in language and data, that has urged me to conduct my own investigations. I have found that a majority of information supplied by the proponent is delayed, diverted or only provided in increments convenient to the interests of this project. Whilst this is business driven by the need to make money, the location is too valuable and of significance, beyond the relatively, of a few winners, shareholders and short term contractors, who will be engaged.

Specially, when I sought answers to 'the toxic dust' the standard and repeated response, namely from the previous Kalbar Resources CEO, were words to the effect: "*the dust won't blow into the air, it is heavy.*" (A statement I can assure will be denied). If this is the case, then why seek the need for water from the Mitchell River, underground and water licences? An astonishing response!

This inaccurate, and careless response, offers me no confidence in KOPL's intention and assurances in regards to practices, let alone, rehabilitation—mere words on paper to gain approval for the project.

KOPL conduct in the community

The intended destruction of a majority of the mature gum trees is incomprehensible. Mining rehabilitation proposals of replacing hundreds year old trees with seedlings, outweigh the loss of current wildlife habitats, wildlife corridors, food sources, soil loss and land stabilization. Retention of removed top soil, will not fill the vacuum. Natures' health benefits, alongside tourism, of an aesthetically beautiful landscape will be lost. The loss of trees, will be a loss at a much larger scale. It should not be ignored or underestimated.

It will take a considerable period of time for seedlings to restore the soil structure, composition and complex eco-system—if at all—if our water supply from our rivers, streams and estuaries, are also irreparability damaged.

Can the Inquiry establish KOPL history of environmental rehabilitation in other mining ventures? My research shows that it is a rarity that mining 'returns a habitat to a status that was prior to mining.

I am questioning the accuracy and level of data inclusion, in KOPL's formal submissions and/or reports that has resulted in this proposal being considered.

I invite the honourable members of the Inquiry to make reference to Coffey Report, in Socioeconomic Impact Statement (Appendix AO18). In reading this document, I sensed a disclaimer in regards to the content of the report – which relates clearly to critical environmental and human factors.

Infringement of Democratic Processes

It has equally been disturbing that our resident's democratic right to protest against this project, has been actively quashed by KOPL's conduct. Signage such as 'NO Mine', 'Stop Kalbar', 'Food Bowl Not Dust Bowl' and other similar signage, on private property, resulted in Kalbar Resources CEO to write letters of complaint to both the East Gippsland and Wellington Shires.

How does this comply with Kalbar's affinity with our community? Social licencing is questionable in this conduct and behaviour.

The outcome for such community members 'freedom of speech' resulted in a number of issued fines, demands for the removal of signage, supported by our local Council—whom are elected to represent our community.

This raises concerns in regards to the equity of power between community members 'voices', against our own local representatives, authorities and a mining company.

In addition, within a short frame of time, KOPL was granted permission to display a large billboard, on the Princes Highway (Stratford), depiction of wind turbines and a couple of young people in hard hats, promoting an image that The Fingerboards Project and Kalbar Resources, is an environmentally friendly project.

Why use wind turbines? They are not part of the project? Why misrepresent environmental issues regarding 'caring for the environment'. Young adult images conveyed employment opportunities. Young adults would not have the skill audit for such a project?

Response to this billboard, from community outrage, resulted in statements to the effect 'sand mine material contributes to wind turbine manufacturing.' - but this was NOT STATED as a merit of this project.

The billboard has been removed, as the entity is no longer Kalbar Resources, but KOPL.

I can only conclude, that such misrepresentation was conveniently addressed with a change of entities name to KOPL.

The Cultural Heritage Impact Statement .

(Identifies the Aboriginal Heritage and the Historical Heritage Context, pertaining to the Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd Fingerboards Mineral Sand Mine project.)

In view that KOPL cultural heritage researchers, were not able to access the entirety of the mining footprint, that incorporates the Cultural Heritage Report, the EES is by default, lacking in all the critically relevant historical data. Respecting that this is the case, the offered report, does confirm the risk factors to Aboriginal and European heritage. Taking this into account, adds to my objection, of the risk to Gippsland—East Gippsland history.

There are valid reasons for the probability of insufficient records of our indigenous historical heritage. These reasons however DO NOT minimise, dismiss or negate, the validity of the existence of the historical value.

Historical record keeping is a process taking many formats.

- It is a well-known fact that indigenous history is passed down through story telling. It is an oral history.
- Not all stories have been recorded or noted in the written word and documented by appropriate historical authorities. Indigenous people's history record keeping was narrative and oral. The practice of recording 'dream time' stories and other 'stories' has only gained momentum in more recent times.
- The likelihood of some stories not being recorded, in writing by European settlers, can be attributed to reasons that reflect cultural differences and cultural misunderstanding. We must remember that our Indigenous community only gained legal status in 1967 when allowed to vote.

During the European settlements, it has been recorded that there was an irradiation of our local indigenous people. In specific terms, the Brabralung clan, along with the other four clans of the Gunai Kurnai. If lives were not lost, our indigenous people were relocated to unfamiliar places. Relocation to such places as Ramahyuk and Lake Tyers, in the midst of fury, didn't allow these people to take or bring their possessions—they may remain, and have remained where lost. This area encompasses where KOPL plans to do mining.

In view of these historical events, family connections, traditions and history present and prevailing, at the Fingerboards/Glenaladale site, carries great significance and needs to be preserved and protected. .

- The modern judicial processes of monetary compensation is not the desired or pursued option as a result of mining misadventures or mining projects. Our indigenous community want their land, history and sacred culture preserved. This will align with a respectful acknowledgement and recognition as people of our Nation.

This landscape, targeted for KOPL's mining, is equally shared by the descendants of European settlers, and current residents, who hold an equally valid entitlement

to this land. This mining project threatens the people who currently live and work there. There are several generational landholders, who continue to contribute to our agricultural wealth aligned with their connections to the Fingerboards/ Glenaladale area.

Families such as the **Morrison's, Wallers, Johnston's, Treasures, Edwards, Perry's, Rose ,Davidson's, Stephenson's** and **Dumaresq** are amongst the families known to KOPL and hopefully, members of this Inquiry.

Their resilience has been fiercely tested, despite drought, flood and horrendous fires . These families still continue to farm. It is their home which has become an intrinsic part of their identity, contribution to our community and purpose in living. This mine places all of these intrinsic values at risk. This mine will impact the wellbeing of these specific families, extended family members and the community which depends on their contributions.

The Fingerboards Glenaladale area is mainly a primary producing area. In the past, it has sustained primary industries such as piggery, dairy farms, a cheese factory, horses breeding, axe handle factory, timber milling, cropping and passionfruit orchards. It currently contributes to the primary production belt, predominately sheep and cattle farming.

The Fingerboards junction, was and is still an important meeting place. It represents a central point for pick up and drop off of produce, a place to rest, appreciate the tranquillity and congregate as point of transition, as they travel between assigned appointments and chores undertaken in a day. Such places in a community are of great value, not in currency but in the sense of belonging and being a part of them as a whole.



*1890's the Fingerboards Cottage was built, occupants over the years were Dennis, Cox, **Morrison, Waller & Young**, for over 30 years this was the home of Don Morrison, son of early settler William, who grew passionfruit orchard and had an avid interest in racehorses,.*



1930 Fingerboards Saleyards constructed, stock agents A. McLean and co and A. McArthur and Co erected substantial saleyards , stock sales were held regularly for 20 years with yarding

1845 Allan Mclean, his brother, Charles, and Simon Gillies took up the 8300 hectare Glenaladale Run. Charles and Anne's, (nee McLellan), son Allan later became Premier of Victoria in 1899-1900.

1857 Gold discovered at along Mitchell River Iguana Creek,

1862 Gillies selected 2000 acres at Woodlands,

1865 Angus McMillan died at Gillies Iguana Creek Hotel,

1871 the Glenaladale Run was divided into the North and South runs. Pat O'Brien held the North run and James McFarland took the South run.

1874 William Howitt and 2 aboriginal guides discovered Den of Nargun,

1875 Wallers took up land in Nindoo,

1879 James and Margaret Campbell built log cabin at Stoney Creek which became Glenaladale Post Office,

1878 John Caughey purchased Calagero (meaning 'meeting waters') licence

1881 first school at Glenaladale, William Morrison teacher,

1882 William and Farquhar Morrison between 1200 and 4000 sheep, cattle were sold from private yards opposite which included a circular selling yard.

1932 Glenaladale CWA was formed with 22 members,

1936 Major floods washed away middle span of Glen Bridge,

1950s Glenaladale CFA fire brigade officially established,

1974 Glenaladale National Park opened to the public (later named Mitchell River National Park)

1890's the Fingerboards Cottage was built, occupants over the years were Dennis, Cox, Morrison, Waller & Young, for over 30 years this was the home of Don Morrison, son of early settler William, who grew passionfruit orchard and had an avid interest in racehorses.

1890 Morrison bros established 4 dairies pre-emptive right opposite current hall site,

1891 Glenaladale Weir construction began,

1892 severe floods damaged weir, 1904-1908 disastrous drought, huge stock losses,

1911 Closer Settlement purchased 850ha of Glenaladale run, cut up into 16 farms Glenaladale Estate,

1912 Tom and Maud Morrison built Glen Loch homestead,

1914-1916 Glenaladale School opened in hall, closed in 1936, severe drought, Glenaladale Recreation Reserve Hall was built,

1917 Glenaladale Estate PO opened, (called Iguana Creek PO, Morton Post Master, Closed in 1968, 1

1918-22 Bridge constructed over Mitchell River at Woodglen and bridge over Iguana Creek,

1920 Fernbank Station,

1930 Fingerboards Saleyards constructed, stock agents A. McLean and co and A. McArthur and Co erected substantial saleyards , stock sales were held regularly for 20 years with yarding

1936 Major floods washed away the middle span of the Glen Bridge.

1945 The last burial at the Glenaladale Cemetery

1950 Glenaladale CFA Fire Brigade officially established

1964 Glenaladale Young Farmers formed,

1965 bad fires burned in the district for 17 days,

1976 Coonawarra Holiday Camp was established by i. and C. Lehmann now Coonawarra Farm Resort,

1984 R & A Rees commenced Coonawarra Trail Rides

Impact on Human Wellbeing, Health and Longevity Reports.

Mining Projects are required to produce a range of 'reports' as part of the process of engaging with their mining objectives.

A Human Health Risk Assessment with the purpose of implementing baseline data and calculating the level of risk to the off site 'receptor population' seems to give some assurance of human health protection. Whilst appearing to address health risks of the KOPL project the opposite is apparent.

Baselines are exactly that. They are a measure from which, if the project is approved, KOPL can use to mitigate any breach or rise in readings. They then must take the agreed steps to alleviate or mitigate any damage or harm incurred as a result of the operation of their project.

There is no doubt there will be an accumulation of various pollutants and stress related issues inflicted upon many members of the community—the '*receptor population.*'

receptor population	A group of people identified within a specified area and/or sharing similar characteristics.
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KOPL has met it's legislative requirements, in producing a range of planning overlays and sponsored the completion of the EES reports. These reports are inclusive of East Gippsland Shire's 'Environmental Significance', 'Vegetation Protection', 'Erosion Management', 'Bushfire Management' and Zoning .

What is of significant concern, is that East Gippsland Shire (Town Planning) has identified the mining site, as a 'Farming Zone' which has detailed and complex rules and guidelines to ensure this classification. Unless a farmer, meets these obligations, standards and requirements, they cannot farm. Hence, we have a community of agricultural /horticultural farmers, who are working within the Shire's Planning requirements, which require strict adherence and maintenance.

What validity can be offered if KOPL, as a mining project, simply intrude on our planning zones, particularly residential and/or farming? How can a mining project, that is questionably an off-shore entity, be given consideration, let alone permission, to contravene such regulations? Why do mining companies, appear to hold a position of authority above legislative processes that our own community member must meet, but they can simply over-ride?

Australia is a democratic nation based on the representation of the majority, given to our representatives in power. A business venture should not hold power, control or privileges outside our parliamentary system—inclusive of our local government bodies. In fact, I trust that this process, strengthens and makes our own local Shire accountable to their own zoning requirements, in regards to this mining project.

Where is the protection of the people who are being directly impacted by KOPL's project?

Map 6 on page 18 of the Land Use and Planning Impact Assessment shows 'dwellings and other sensitive receptors'

The Land Use and Planning Impact Assessment does NOT acknowledge the human element that is being, and will be severely impacted if this project is approved.

Appendix A013 Land Use and Planning MATRIX...Executive Summary ii states:-

"The project area is **remote** from **urban settlements** with very few individual houses within and in the environs of the project area. Kalbar has agreement to purchase or has purchased the three houses and adjoining properties inside the project area."

Remote (*online Oxford Dictionary*) (of a place) situated far from the main centres of population; distant.

I wish to bring to the attention of the Inquiry, some key points, in response to this statement above.

- The project area is **remote from urban settlements—this is not a statement of fact**. It is not remote from farming families, primary industries, residents and other community members, which constitutes a rural setting. Urban is language assigned to built up areas such as cities, like suburbs of Melbourne.

If you live in the Melbourne suburb of Eltham and commute to inner city Melbourne for work every day would you consider that you lived in a remote area?

- When you live in a rural/country setting, commuting, **is the norm** to allow people to shop, work, study, access entertainment, attend appointments and conduct their lives. The mining site's positioning of approx. 20 Kilometres from Bairnsdale, is not considered travel distance assigned to remoteness.
- The Fingerboards, Glenaladale, through Walpa (*population 154*), Lindenow (*population 473*), and Hillside (*population 193*), (*Population according to the 2016 Census*) to Bairnsdale takes less than half an hour. This is the norm.

There are no traffic lights until you reach the centre of Bairnsdale (*Urban Population 12,952*), the road is sealed and easy driving. The traffic is usually light in comparison to city driving. The scenery is pleasant, stress less and refreshing. This is not an **urban zone**.

The concept of what is '**remote**' is based on one's perspective. If you haven't lived in a rural setting for any period of time, the perception of 'remoteness' can be distorted. A reporting process, that is formalised in the context of 'city/urban' impacts, cannot be accurately applied in a rural setting. Hence, questionable descriptor has been applied in this instance.

Impact of Mining in our Community Our community doesn't need another episode.

STOCKMAN'S MINE SEEPING TOXINS INTO THE TAMBO RIVER

The Stockman's Mine in State Forest near Benambra on the upper reaches of the Tambo River went into receivership in 1996 resulting in the mine being left abandoned. This cost the Victorian Government \$5.4 million (there are other higher figures out there) to stabilise the dam walls and remove chemicals, heavy metals and alkaline in the tailings and process plant clean up. The tailings dam is seeping toxic chemicals into the Tambo River. A mining company called Round Oak has now been given the green light by the Victorian Government to reopen and build on the old tailings dam. They plan to build the dam wall higher increasing the pressure on an already compromised base. This link is worth reading

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-26/benambra-stockman-mine-approved/10039390>

Benambra Stockman's Mine History

1992: Original Benambra Wilga mine begins operation by Denehurst

1998: Denehurst goes into administration, forfeiting its government bond of \$375,000. Mining operations ceased without rehabilitation, and claims that the tailings dam was spilling pollutants into the Tambo River.

1999: EPA authorises the first of a number of emergency discharges from the tailings dam to prevent spilling.

2004: Victorian government makes tailing dam exempt from the mining licence area

2004: The Benambra Mine site becomes a liability of the State of Victoria.

2005-2006: The Victorian Government rehabilitates the mine site and tailings dam at a cost of \$6.9 million.



View of the across the Mitchell River from 1580 Fernbank-Glenaladale Road

KPOL's propose project area is on treed plateau to the centre and right of photo

Photo taken by Leanne Dyson

Understanding Community and Community Values

What is a Community?

According to Wikipedia:

A **Community** is a social unit (a group of living things) with **commonality** such as norms, religion, **values**, customs, or **identity**.

Communities may **share a sense of place** situated in a given geographical area (e.g. a country, village, town, or neighbourhood) Durable relations that extend beyond immediate genealogical ties also define a **sense of community, important to their identity, practice, and roles in social institutions such as family, home, work, government, society, or humanity at large.**

Sense of community

In a seminal 1986 study, McMillan and Chavis^[8] identify four elements of "sense of community": membership:

- feeling of **belonging** or of sharing a sense of personal relatedness, influence:
- mattering, making a difference to a group and of the group **mattering** to its members reinforcement:
- integration and **fulfilment** of needs, **shared** emotional **connection**.

A "**sense of community** index (SCI) was developed by Chavis and colleagues, and revised and adapted by others.

Although originally designed to assess sense of community in neighbourhoods, the index has been adapted for use in schools, the workplace, and a variety of types of communities.

Belonging in a community, particularly small communities, develop fewer psychiatric and depressive disorders

Value (online Cambridge Dictionary)

1 the regard that something is held to deserve; the importance, worth, or usefulness of something.

Similar: Merit, worth, usefulness, desirability, benefit, gain, profit, good, helpfulness, assistance, effectiveness, efficacy, importance, significance

2 the material or monetary worth of something.

Similar: Price, cost, worth, market, price, monetary value,

3 principles or standards of behaviour; one's judgement of what is important in life.

Similar: Principles, moral, principles, ethics, moral, code

It's important not to expose this present community to a history's lesson of the costs of mining.

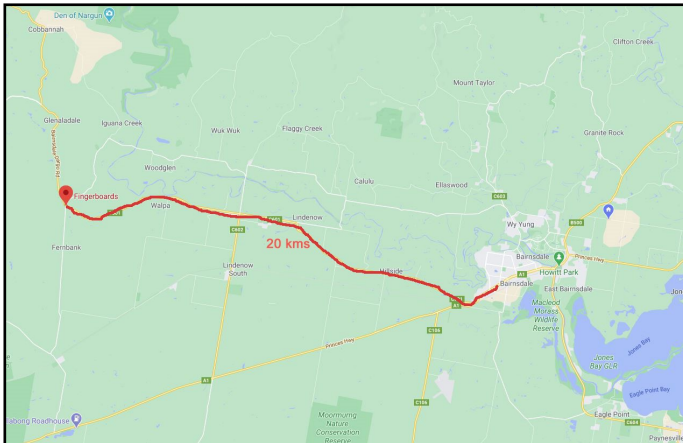
KOPL and the various EES experts have gone to great lengths to create their understandings of the Fingerboard/Glenaladale and the wider communities. They have sourced data from the East Gippsland Shire, Bairnsdale Regional Health, various education precincts, various community and health related organizations and many other sources. They have performed surveys and held information meetings and webinars all in an attempt to analyse the community.

The results are displayed in figures, charts, maps, statements all of which *have failed* to fundamentally understand what a community is, why it exists and what keeps it together.

The identification of Community Values is also lost in the facts and figures. The reason for this is that community values aren't all measurable.

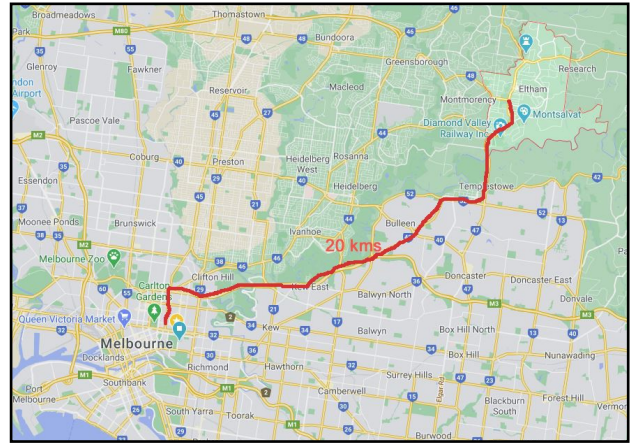
Fingerboards to Bairnsdale 20 kms (rural)

Google Maps



Melbourne to Eltham 20 kms (urban)

Google Maps



The Fingerboards looking North West.



Distorted Views of the Land Use Planning Impact Assessment

On pages 13 to 15 of *The Land Use and Planning Impact Assessment*, presents 5 panoramic images of properties with in the project boundaries. As a semi-professional photographer, I wish to highlight, that attached panoramic images have distorted the images, in this instance. Panoramic photography, when conducted well, will not distort images. In my view, the perspective images enclosed, fail to report the extent of what this landscape contains.

In view of this, I have taken my own photographs for your comparison and appreciation of the pending environment damage and cost if this project proceeds. The image comparisons are literally like seeing the view through either the bottom of a glass coke bottle or a clear pane of glass.

Unsure of location of image below -Plate 17 to the right is accurate.

Image possibly taken in a south easterly direction from the gate on boundary corner at of 2705. from Bairnsdale-Dargo Road.



Plate 17: 2705 Bairnsdale-Dargo Road



Image to the above is of 2705 taken from the boundary corner of 2705 South West Bairnsdale-Dargo



Image above of 2705 taken south west a little further up Bairnsdale-Dargo Rd



Plate 18: 1375 Bairnsdale-Dargo Road



Authors image of 1375
Bairnsdale-Dargo Road



Plate 13: 2465 Bairnsdale-Dargo Road from Fernbank-Glenaladale Road



Authors image of
2465 Fernbank-
Glenaladale Road
Perry Gully is to the
left of dead tree.



Plate 16: 1500-1520 Fernbank-Glenaladale Road



Author's image of 1520
Fernbank Glenaladale Rd. looking East

Author's image of 1500
Fernbank Glenaladale Rd. looking East



Author's image of 1580
Fernbank Glenaladale Rd. looking North East



Plate 15: 2610 Bairnsdale-Dargo Road from Fernbank-Glenaladale Road



Author's image of 2610 Bairnsdale-Dargo Road from Fernbank-Glenaladale Road



Plate 6: Southern end of 50 Careys Road looking east



Author's image of Carey's Rd looking north from corner of Carey's Rd and Bairnsdale-Dargo Rd.

Why Remove All the Majestic Mature Trees?

These are only a significant number of mature gum/native trees at risk—up to 700 mature gums, and inclusive of these, a figure of 1600 when taking into account younger trees and other species of flora.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE THEM.



Near 2705 west along Lindenow-Dargo Rd



Near 1520 Fernbank-Glenaladale Rd



2250 Careys Road

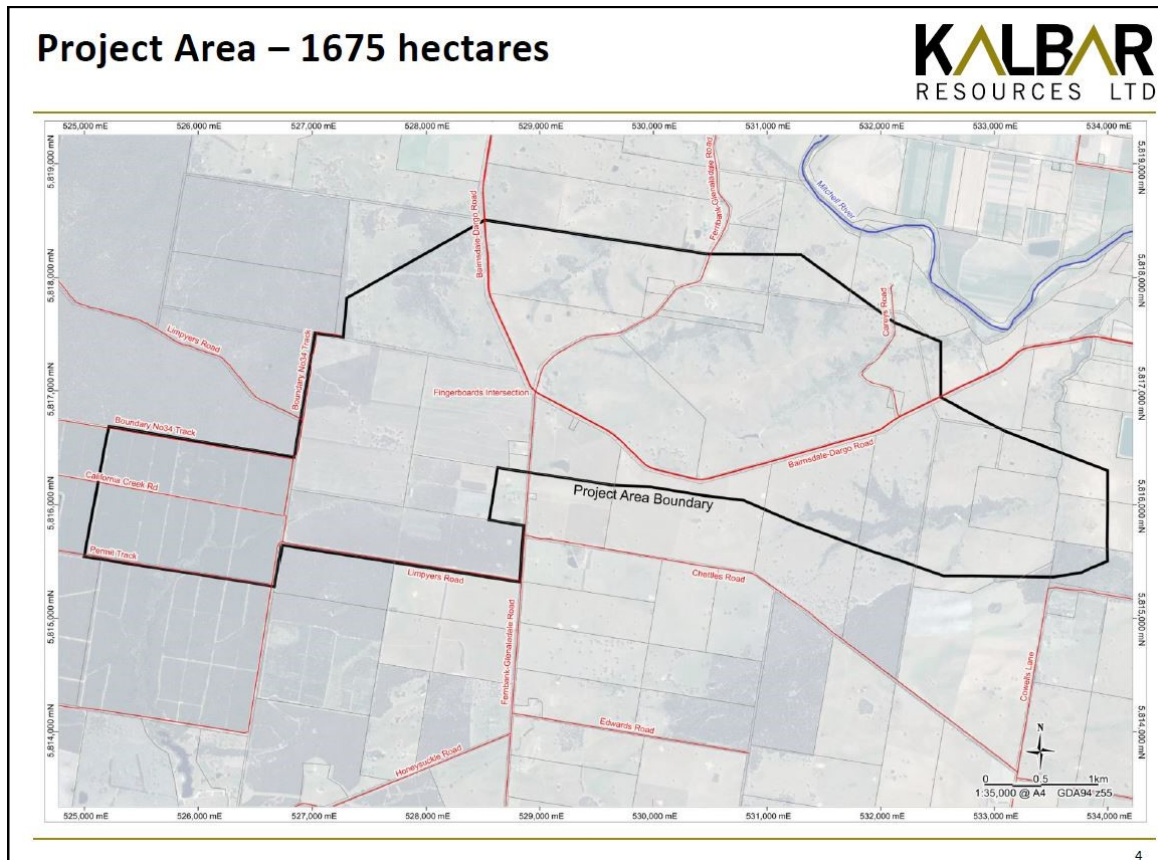
2495 Lindenow-Dargo Rd

2460 Fingerboards



This seedling will take a few centuries to reach the size of some of the trees in the Author's photos which are representative of the many more that will be gone from KOPL's proposed project site.

Proponent's Failure to Inform Community



This is a map from Kalbar Resources public information meeting on 22nd August, 2019. NOTE: there is absolutely **NO reference or markings to indicate private residences** within or around the project area.

From EES Glossary

sensitive receptors	<i>n.</i>	sites, environmental values, people, communities and/or resources that may be affected by project impacts.
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I have continued to remain very concerned at the marketing and representation of the mining project to our community.

As noted in the above Map, which was presented at the last Kalbar community meeting, it fails to accurately define, represent and highlight, all of the risk factors—particularly the human and environmental factors. Whilst other ‘maps’ may represent (a) sensitive receptors, like people; (b) link and distance to the Mitchell River & associated water bodies/resources; and (c) denuding of the environment and other presented concerns—THIS DID NOT.

The community I believe, has not been informed of the full ramifications of this project.

- My objection to this particular public meeting and map was the failure to show the community such factors as showing households close to the mining project. Referring to **People and their residences** as a ‘sensitive receptor’ within a scientific model of presenting information, (e.g. a dot and R12 on a map) demonstrated a lack of due care, that I can only describe as a **dehumanization** process.

Within this EES document it has been difficult to find reference to people and residences.

During the many Kalbar Resources (now KOPL) Public Meetings the depictions of maps and plans of their Fingerboards Project were shown. During these meetings, the previous Kalbar Resources CEO, Victor Hugo (who now acts as a consultant) was asked **why none of the residences were identified on their maps?**

His reply was 'due to residents privacy.' This was also questioned when all residences could be viewed by the public on Google Maps. There was, what I can only describe, as acts of repetitive offending of a refusal to highlight proximity of residential dwellings. Community members indicated they wanted these maps to show their homes—they were providing consent.

Ongoing Failure to Disclose

KOPL website continues to not represent this concern and fact. The continuing risk, is that people who wish to be fully informed of these issues, and access the KOPL website, are not accessing a balanced and realistic representation of 'risk factors.'

Marketing, inclusive of billboards, public meetings and media reports, continue to *only* project the 'benefits to East Gippsland.

Residents, landholders, farmers and a range of people, whom I have engaged with over the last three years, primarily concerned with the impact of the proponent's project, express that the **terminology is disrespectful, misleading, and manipulative of the representation of risks and dehumanization of them** — the removal of the human factor.

I can only interpret this conduct as a process in which the **proponent's censorious behaviour**. The paramount interests of KOPL override, what I believe to have been a transgression of transparency to our community and community leaders. Does this amount to, if there is agreement, to false and misleading behaviour?



View from Fernbank-Glenaladale Road approximately 1 km from KOPL's proposed project footprint

Glenaladale's close knit community is suffering already and the impending decision is taking a toll that will significantly increase if KOPL's proposed project is approved. The ramifications of the impact on the individuals and community involved will be grievous.

Belonging and what belonging means to people

To belong somewhere or to something or someone is an essential part of being human. We all need to Belong. The people in the Fingerboards/Glenaladale area are no different to anyone else in their need to belong. They have lived and farmed this area for generations. The sense of belonging to the earth they stand, live and work on give them purpose and pride. A completeness that we all strive for and desire.

KOPL's propose project will alienate and crush the deep belonging that holds strongly to the people. This project is contributing to potentially, community division. The cost is enormous and all encompassing.

How do you measure the sense of inclusiveness, belonging and sharing between collectives of people?

- *The Socioeconomic EES Statement identifies the need for gathering an understanding of the values and community to establish a baseline of recognition of the importance of the quality of their social environment*
- *2.5.1. Community values are qualities of the social environment that are important to people and conducive to individual wellbeing.*
- *Understanding what local community values are is an important .*

The problem is that the very presence of such a mine in an area splits communities. Subsequently the division of a community decimates begins to fragments the creating undue stress on community bodies on KOPL's donation list. Throwing money at these groups is not going to keep them functioning if the community no longer participates due to conflict between neighbours and families, lost production and business and the sheer pressure of the decimation of coherency and interpersonal dynamics. All of which are brought upon the community by the presence of a mine.

- If the community is unhappy with their changed environment the potential for members of that community to move to another area to improve their own wellbeing then the population reduces and the numbers to support such community organizations lessens, putting more pressure on those already suffering in one way or another due to the presence of a mine.
- Living in a strong supportive community gives a sense of belonging to each individual community member.
Being a member of a community has benefits such as strength in the cohesiveness , support and nurtures success and prosperity.

An exert from

The importance of belonging

Amanda Enayati and Special to CNN

Updated 6:11 PM EDT, Fri June 1, 2012

Because as humans, we need to belong. To one another, to our friends and families, to our culture and country, to our world.

Belonging is primal, fundamental to our sense of happiness and well-being.

Belonging is a psychological lever that has broad consequences, writes Walton. Our interests, motivation, health and happiness are inextricably tied to the feeling that we belong to a greater community that may share common interests and aspirations.

Closing statement

This is what is at risk.



I implore members of this Inquiry to make a decision, that reflects:

- the sustainability of our horticultural heritage and contribution to primary and horticultural industries
- the wellbeing and health of our people and generations to come;
- our environment as a place of indigenous history and habitat of our unique and vulnerable species
- The duty of care, towards others that are the 'residents' 'at risk', against a business venture, that may not provide and meet all of it's promises.

Your decision will be life changing. I ask that the change is NOT MINING by KOPL for the reasons offered in my submission.

In essence, I am asking that you restore our voice in this matter.

We, our children and grandchildren will remain—Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd—is transit and will be gone. Profits to overseas interest.

Please protect and preserve our history and natural heritage markings.



Anton family at The Fingerboards, East Gippsland, Vic. 1916

This photo was taken at the intersection of Dargo-Lindenow and Fernbank-Glenaladale Roads, East Gippsland, Victoria, Australia

David Anton, farmer, stands next to his horses. His wife Flora and possibly their four daughters Bella, Mary, Maud and Dora are seated in the wagon. Grand daughter May sits on Topsy. Grandson Hugh Morrison is seated facing the horses.

We have seen and endured lots. We have a worthy history to preserve. We do not need to create a history showing the depletion and destruction of this gifted and plentiful landscape.

END OF SUBMISSION

