

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

710

Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Peter Dyson

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1: Peter_Dyson_EES

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: My letter is submitted electronically

29th October 2020

Dear Members of the Inquiry

Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd – Fingerboard Mining Project

I wish to object to the proposed Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd (KPOL) Mineral Sands Mining Project. I am aware of the Environmental Effects Statement.

I am not against mining, but I find that this project's location is not the appropriate location for this proposed mining operation. It places at risk the Victorian Heritage listed Mitchell River with its internationally recognised Ramsar registered Silt Jetties and associated Wet Land area.

I have NO confidence in Kalbar's ability to be able to control 'Mother Nature'. KPOL's mining operations are designed around 'modelling' and industry best practices. There is evidence worldwide where the mining industry has 'got it wrong' regarding tailings dams and rehabilitation. Mining, historically has consistently left unrepairable destruction.

The control, watchdog, overseer of KOPL's proposed project operational procedures, as the framework and reasoning for the project, is of great concern.

I feel that a lot has been overlooked. Community members, as humans, have been attracted by 'the mighty dollar – in this case, the almighty mining dollar. A very narrow perspective, only thinking of the short term gains, with little concern for others in their community, let alone the environment that supports them. There has been little to no regard for the local population, culture and environment.

Many studies have been done since the 1990's with regard to the Mitchell River and rehabilitation work done on the river and its tributaries including Iguana Creek and Skull Creek to minimise erosion. This project contravenes the findings for conservation of these reports from appropriate local and governmental departments.

I believe that a large mining venture, as proposed by KOPL, and the scales' impact, will create disturbance to the river catchment land and surroundings. The close proximity to the river and waterways cannot be replaced and I question, rehabilitated. Rehabilitation of toxin by-products into water ways, due to the *wash-off*, let alone, demands on our limited water resources - cannot be accepted. There is the risk that this project will result in the unrepairable damage by the 'East Coast Low' weather patterns, placing the river and downstream Lindenow Flats and Gippsland Lakes at risk. This then risks our tourist industry, livelihoods, health and all that defines East Gippsland, beyond Glenaladale.

I have lived, worked, raised our families in this magnificent part of Victoria over the last 54 years and I wish that our children and grandchildren are able to do the same.

I thank the members of the Inquiry for reading and considering my contribution, as a community member and real 'stakeholder' of East Gippsland.

Yours faithfully

(Sent electronically)

Peter Dyson