

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee - EES

747

Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Charlotte King

Organisation:

Affected property: 1

Attachment 1:

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 and that i strongly oppose the mine for the following reasons, outlined below: We have owned our property for 10 years and have a 20 acre farm with cattle and horses. We have two children currently at school and we are both self employed working in nearby Bairnsdale. Our farm is within a few kms of the proposed mine. We are not against mining, but we strongly believe the mine is in the wrong location. We are extremely concerned with the issues with toxic dust and the large use of water. We were in drought earlier this year and last year and restrictions were in place for the Mitchell River. I cannot see how a mine can be sustained with their large water use. I am also concerned about radio active particles getting in to the water and the rivers into our beautiful lakes. We rely on tourism in our region and a mine here would definitely not help and would project a very poor image, tarnishing the natural diversity of our region. The Mitchell River National Park is only a few kms away from the proposed mine site. There are many aboriginal artifacts at the mine location which would potentially be destroyed. Only a few months ago, Aboriginal artifacts were discovered a few kms away in the Mitchell River National Park. A huge mine company, Rio Tinto, was also fined for intentionally destroying cultural artifacts. I dont believe Kalbar are any different. When we bought our farm we certainly were not aware a mine could possibly be on our doorstep. we have been informed the 'Lindenow and District Community Plan' did not foresee a mine in our area. The vegetables grown here have the potential to be contaminated with the toxic dust from the mine. Some vegetables are packed and not washed. I am sure people in Melbourne would not want to eat veggies grown here which would adversely affect our agricultural industry and could cause job losses. The tailings dam is also a huge concern which would contain contaminants. We already have a leaking tailings dam at another mine in Benambra which is causing irreversible damage to our natural environment, so the risk of this occurring here is very high. I do not trust or believe the mine will provide full rehabilitation to our area. I have seen and heard of many other mines being left as a toxic waste dump, like the Douglas mine at Balmoral in Western Victoria. I am also angry that compulsory acquisition of our neighbours private land will be allowed. The mine is in business to make money for themselves. It will do nothing for our community, there are NO benefits. The land they will take is outside the mine project area and isnt this a matter for our council to decide? (Refer to Draft Planning Scheme Amendment - Attachment C in the EES) Thank you for allowing me to make this submission. Charlotte King & Shayne Tiffin