

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

759

Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Lauren Woodward

Organisation:

Affected property: [REDACTED] Walpa

Attachment 1: IMG_5615.jpg

Attachment 2: IMG_5605.jpg

Attachment 3: Submission_Laure

Comments: ' see attachment"

Thankyou panel members for the opportunity to express my views on this very important community issue.

I ask you one thing to really considering how this honestly sits with you at the deepest level. Really think above all sides especially the high potential health threats that impacts on our kids and generations to come.

As a kid growing up on a vegetable farm in Walpa, this area is rich in environmental diversity, pristine natural resources , beautiful national parks and abundant wildlife.

If you look up the aboriginal word for Walpa it translates to windy hill.

Please see photos attached of the dust spread from coming directly from the area of the proposed mine site on what a local wouldn't consider a very windy day.

The wind gusts that are generated carry dust particles for km across the Lindenow valley flats and into denser community areas such as Bairnsdale, Paynseville, W Wyung Contamination to the to local water supply which is housed only 3.5km down wind of the mine, and again I refer to the images attached.

These photos look directly towards the Reservoir.

The health impacts that contamination could have on human/animal life, needs to be heavily investigated and examined in this area through vigorous testing/ tracking of air contaminates

Without the threat of mineral sands and added dust its already dangerous an unacceptable risk to the local school and kindergarten in Lindenow and the respiratory threat this places on the developing lungs of the children and increased risk of asthma attacks is inexcusable

Also not to mention the vegetable industry in the Lindenow Valley is only 500m downwind from the mine with most of the vegetables grown above ground, so dust from the mine is a high risk. You don't want to eat contaminated vegetables or risk that industry being shut down which could result in big job and financial losses for our region.

It has been acknowledged that there are radioactive substances being mined including rare earths. Below ground level and undisturbed these substances do not pose a health risk. It is when they are excavated and crushed that dust is generated, dispersing these materials into the environment; this poses a grave risk on the health of 1000 of people.

Based on what I wrote above this is of great concern, the kids and their developing lungs, the farmers who spend 12 hours a day within less the 1 km down wind of the mine, the wildlife, the water system that feeds into the. East Gippsland lakes

The duty of care you have to ensure basic human right of fresh clean contaminate freely air. Can you guarantee this?

Remember Walpa translates to windy hill.

If you can't guarantee the safety, then the risk is too great.

It is furthermore unacceptable to allow compulsory acquisition of private land to be used by the mine for infrastructure that is located outside the mining project boundary for: water pipelines, bore pumps, bore field, roadworks, new powerlines, easements, rail siding and vegetation removal. Why wasn't this part of the mine project area? Why isn't this a matter for the EG Shire Council to determine?

The Council's 'Lindenow & District Community Plan' did not foresee a mine in that area. Government needs to recognise the pre-existing residential and agricultural land use. Noise from a mine operating 24 hours a day 7 days a week will be untenable and very stressful, and you don't accept that the noise levels won't be a problem.

Over my 35 years I have seen how quickly the Mitchell river can drop-within days impacting the agriculture industry in its water levels, 3 billion litre every year for 15 years where is the long-term study the shows evidence that the underground aqua fires won't be impacted? I would like to thank the panel members for taking their time to read over these submissions and really consider the long term environmental, health impacts (mental emotional and physical) this mine will have on the wider community for generations to come , Your sincerely Lauren Woodward



