

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

868

Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Beverley Mace

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: See attached submission

Dear Enquiry and Advisory Committee Members

I am forwarding this letter in regards to the E.E.S that is being put forward to ascertain if the Fingerboards Mineral Sand Mine Project will be approved. This is a highly inappropriate use of the land and area in question. My objections are manyfold and I will list them below. I have lived in the East Gippsland Region for 40 years in Lindenow and now in Bairnsdale. I am 83 years old and for the last 4 years have been attending information sessions held by Kalbar - the proponents of the project. In my opinion, as a rate payer and resident of East Gippsland, this company has never been truthful, transparent or socially credible in their actions and information disclosure. Please find below a dot point list of the issues I would like to speak to at the public hearing.

As a member of the large number of elderly retirees in the East Gippsland area, I have been involved in frequent discussions with friends and associates, all of whom are alarmed disappointed and quite frankly dumfounded that this project is even being considered.

Concerns and questions

1. Water usage was estimated at 5 gigalitres now reduced to 3 Gt. No firm details even now where this water will be sourced. Water is integral to the health of the Gippsland lakes, residents, industry and agriculture. Water availability is limited in this region and a secure supply and flow should be guaranteed by council local government state and Federal government. WATER IS THE BASIS FOR LIFE!!

2. East Gippsland has a reputation (put forward by our Tourism, Local Government and industries) as a clean green region. "Destination Gippsland" is a fantastic concept not "Destination Radioactive Noise Dustbowl". We have a Beautiful clean healthy area, welcoming millions of tourists per year. Is it not up to the authorities making decisions about this inappropriate use of land, to make a valid decision reflecting the wishes of the majority.

NOT approval of an invasive toxic short term profit driven Mining Company - Kalbar.

3. Vegetable growing and farming has been a major employer in the region for many decades. These "clean green" industries are flourishing and if Kalbar cannot honour their projected "Safe" operations, the East Gippsland Area could become a prohibited source of food - meat, vegetables and seafood. "Employment" opportunities put forward by Kalbar is a minute percentage compared to the ongoing sustainable industries already operating in the area. Sustainable employment is more important than a company who has no prior experience to operate a mine. And has already stated that the workforce would be Fly In Fly Out "experts" and sub contractors drawn from who knows where?

These are just a few of the issues myself and everyone I have been in contact with over this long period (over 4 years) I look forward to speaking to these points at the Public Hearing
Regards