

# Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory  
Committee - EES

# 885

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Request to be heard?: No

**Full Name:** Christine Storey

**Organisation:**

**Affected property:**

**Attachment 1:**

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** See attached submission

Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members.

I am writing this submission about the EES for the Fingerboards mineral sand mine project. I wish to express my strong opposition to this development as I do not believe the mine owners/operators can guarantee the health and safety of the local community, the Mitchell River, the Perry River and even the Gippsland Lakes.

I have lived in East Gippsland for twenty-one years having enjoyed many activities such as bushwalking, swimming, horse riding and camping near Iguana Creek. I had envisaged being able to continue to utilize this healthy river and lake system for many years. I also drink this water.

We do not know the health risks this mine has the potential to infiltrate the land, humans as well as the animals, what substances are going to be distributed by the wind and or water from mining this area.

The health and wellbeing of people, animals and the unique ecosystem to this area will be impacted through mining.

Examples to be affected

Water – Drinking water, town supply, domestic tank water, dams, water troughs, even the pools of water after rain that birds, insects drink and bath in.

Food – Market gardens, orchids, home gardens as well as the grasses eaten by animals.

Air quality.

Are we going to be able to participate in these activities without risking our health?

Recreation – locals and visitors, weekend sports, swimming, bushwalking, horse riding, bike riding, boating, fishing.

There is a large amount of water required by the mine. The farmers and residents of the East Gippsland Shire have been in drought and have had to have water restrictions. How can water be found to supply the mine and not the local farmers and residents?

This underground water, do we know where it flows from or where it flows to? Could taking it for the mine also be taking it from other areas, eg Traralgon.

Is money being put aside for rehabilitation? Is there money available for rehabilitation to areas already defaced?

Why isn't the infrastructure for the mine included in the EES? Why isn't this part of the mine site? What extra impact will this have on the local area – flora and fauna – peoples lives/income/recreation/access to local areas eg Dargo- cost to the East Gippsland Shire to maintain this infrastructure. Have any studies been carried out on the additional areas?

Have the writers of the EES personally visited the area under threat?

I believe everyone should stand on the banks of the Mitchell River, look up towards the plateau (to be the mine site) and state that no contamination will reach this river. The mine site is too close to the Mitchell River.

We cannot control nature. Please do not risk this beautiful and healthy part of our world.

I strongly oppose this mine.

Thank you Panel members for this opportunity to make this submission

Christine Storey.