

# Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory  
Committee - EES

# 895

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Request to be heard?: No

**Full Name:** Elizabeth Goding

**Organisation:**

**Affected property:**

**Attachment 1:**

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** See attached submission

Dear Enquiry + Advisory Committee Members,

I am writing this submission about the E.E.S. for the fingerboards mineral sands mine project.

I am totally opposed to this on every level. Time and again mines come, promising everything, delivering little. Leaving the community and taxpayers with their mess.

WATER - Such a massive amount of water, 3GL, for dust suppression, from such a limited resource. Water that should be clean, keeping our river and lake system healthy, providing an environment we want to live in and tourists wish to visit. Water that could be used for long term farming + vegetable production, rather than a short term mine. What a risk to our environment if things go wrong. So many farming families, tourist businesses, local small businesses depend on a clean healthy water source + environment.

OBS - Very small number of "possible" jobs for local people compared to the vegetable growing area if they had any "extra" water.

ENVIRONMENT - Such a huge topic. Wasting valuable clean water to suppress dust, water that will then no longer be clean. Dust travels such a long way, hundreds of kilometres. Drought worsens dust storms from dry + exposed country and this dust could carry material dangerous to our health. Breathing in a dusty environment isn't good for anyone, let alone whatever else that dust carries. Trees. Trees take decades to reach any decent size and much longer to even begin to start forming any small hollows for nesting sites for birds, possums etc. yet they just get cleared, some here, some there. The cumulative effect of all our clearing over our state, our whole country is very concerning. Our loss of natural

environment is shameful, no regard for anything other than human wants. No regard for having a healthy natural environment with regard to a diverse range of plants and animals. Native plants, native animals. How can we have no regard to the cultural significance of ~~the~~ this area to the Indigenous people of the area? Why is it considered acceptable for mining companies to come into a community, to ravage and despoil that community's natural environment for such short term gain - a gain that only goes to the mining company with very little to the local community?

How is it considered acceptable to allow Compulsory Acquisition of land for the mine for all the infrastructure involved? Families who have worked and cared for this land, totally disregarded, forced to give up their land? Surely the East Gippsland Shire council should be making this decision.

WATER The drinking water for Bairnsdale is just 3.5km downwind from the mine - scarily close.

VEGETATION REHABILITATION - Prior experience has shown me that this rarely happens as it should.

I thank you for the opportunity to make this submission

Elizabeth Goding.