Submission Cover Sheet

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Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee - EES

Request to be heard?: No - but please email me a copy of the

Timetable and any Directions

Full Name: Kathryn Mary Macdonald

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments:

I am writing to state that I stand with the Traditional Owners of the land on which the proposed mine is proposed to be situated. The Gunai Kurnai people, and support their submission to oppose this mineral sand mine. I personally, strongly oppose the approval of this mine in East Gippsland on Gunai Kurnai land and waters. The threat to the environment is too great to do anything than oppose this proposed mine. As you are aware, the environment of East Gippsland has suffered a catastrophic event over the 2019/20 summer with over 50% of East Gippsland burnt in the bushfires. The Traditional Owners and non Aboriginal community have been devastated by the destruction of country as a result of these fires. To allow this mine to go ahead and threaten the land and waters of East Gippsland after already suffering significant loss of cultural heritage would be abhorrent. The threat to the Songlines and Totems of the Gunai Kurnai people is significant and cannot be overlooked. Once Kalbar have approval for this mine they will sell it to the highest bidder, you cannot guarantee the safety of the sacred sites, the water quality or the practices of whoever buys this mine. The water feeds the surrounding areas and travels into the Gippsland Lakes system, if you cannot be 110% sure that the proposed mine will not negatively effect this system is any way you cannot approve it. Our rivers are already suffering as a result of fire and drought, please to not put our environment at further risk. Our food bowl sits next to the proposed site and will also suffer as a result through the travel of toxic dust and loss of water and possible negative impact to the quality of water. During the fires over 3,000 sacred sites have been decimated between the Tambo River and Snowy River alone. Jobs come and go, the land and waters are forever, but not if this goes through. Our communities have suffered enough. Please listen to the people who will be deeply effected by the destruction of this sacred and beautiful land and respect the views of the Gunai Kurnai people as represented by the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal corporation.