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Memorandum

Recipient company Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd

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Memo Socioeconomic Impact Assessment - Kalbar IAC Responses

Background

Coffey Services Australia Pty Ltd (Coffey) was engaged by Kalbar Operations Pty Ltd (Kalbar) to prepare a socioeconomic impact assessment to support the Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project.

At the time of preparing the socioeconomic impact assessment (SEIA), Coffey used the best available information, including the most recent publicly available data sources, to inform the assessment and report. In response to comments received through the Inquiry and Advisory Committee, Coffey have sought to locate updated data sources, made available since completion of the SEIA. The majority of data sources have not been updated since their use. For example, the Mitchell River National Park Management Plan (Parks Victoria, 1998), the 2016 Census data (ABS, 2016) and the East Gippsland Council Plan 2017-2021 (East Gippsland Shire, 2017).

Updated data sources

Some data sources can be updated to provide more recent information. Table 1 presents a summary of the relevant parts of the SEIA that can be updated with more recent information.

The information extracted from these sources was used to provide the reader with a general understanding of the existing socioeconomic conditions and updates to this information would not alter the findings of the socioeconomic impact assessment.

Table 1 Socioeconomic impact assessment data sources

Original data source reference	SEIA section and page number	Updated SEIA extract
Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), 2018	Section 5.2; pg., 43	The Bureau of Meteorology reported that Victoria had an overall dry winter, with most of Victoria, excluding the Gippsland region, experiencing below average rainfall. In comparison, parts of East Gippsland recorded on average or slightly above average total rainfall (Bureau of Meteorology, 2021). parts of East Gippsland being severely deficient in rainfall in 2018 with a couple of sites having their lowest total rainfall on record or lowest total rainfall for at least 30 years (Bureau of Meteorology, 2018).
Country Fire Authority (CFA), 2017	Section 5.7.3; pg., 77	Fire stations are also located at Lindenow (located in Lindenow), Hillside, Flaggy Creek, Munro, Sarsfield and Fernbank (CFA, 2021 2017).
Crime Statistics Agency, 2017	Section 5.5.5; pg., 59	For the year ending September 2020, 2019 Wellington and East Gippsland shires had 7,470 6,816 and 7,741 6,883 criminal incidents per 100,000 people, respectively. This rate is considerably higher than the Victorian average of 6,159 5,873 per 100,000 people. The most common offences in both shires were theft, breaches of orders, and assault and related offences (Crime Statistics Agency, 2020 2017).
	Section 6.1.1; pg., 125	Criminal incidents across the study area occur at a rate that is slightly higher than the Victorian average (Crime Statistics Agency, 2020 2017).
Department of Education and Training (DET), 2014	Section 5.7.1, Table 5.21; pg., 74	East Gippsland Shire; Primary schools; 27 28 Wellington Shire; Primary schools; 25 28 Wellington Shire; Secondary schools; 3 4
Department of Education and Training (DET), 2017	Section 5.7.1; pg., 75	In 2019, 2016 43 60 private training providers were present across the Gippsland region, 24 26 adult community education providers and six TAFE providers (DET, 2020 2017).
Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), 2015	Section 2.6.1; pg., 18	The risk assessment was based on the Western Australian Guidelines for Preparing a Bushfire Risk Management Plan (DFES, 2020 2015).
Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), 2019	Section 5.5.8; pg., 62	While in the 12 months to September 2020 June 2019 the median weekly rent across Gippsland increased 8.5% 6.4%, across regional Victoria, Gippsland had one of the highest proportion of affordable new lettings (51.6% 59.6%) (DHHS, 2020 2019)

Original data source reference	SEIA section and page number	Updated SEIA extract
	Section 5.5.8; pg., 62	While this indicates availability of long-term accommodation options within the study area, between September 2019 and September 2020 March 2018 and March 2019 there was a 14.4% 14.0% decline in the number of new lettings across the Gippsland region (DHHS, 2020 2019). This trend is consistent across regional Victoria with all regions recording an annual decline in the number of new lettings (between 1.4% and 21.0% 7.6% and 14%).
	Section 6.6.2; pg., 164	As outlined in Section 5.5.8, between September 2019 and September 2020 March 2018 and March 2019 the Gippsland region experienced a decline of 14.0% 14.4% in new lettings (DHHS, 2020 2019).
East Gippsland Shire Council, 2017a	Section 5.2.1; pg., 46	The East Gippsland Shire Council Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 (2020 2017a) was developed by the shire with input from numerous stakeholders to assist in achieving the council's vision that East Gippsland be the most liveable region in Australia. The plan outlines how the council will build on the region's strengths and attributes by identifying a series of priorities and goals, and the strategies to be implemented to achieve them.
East Gippsland Shire Council, 2017b	Section 5.7.3; pg., 78	East Gippsland Shire Council has assisted communities to develop a series of Local Incident Management Plans to ensure residents and visitors know where to go, what to take and what to expect if a major incident affects the area (East Gippsland Shire Council, 2021a 2017b).
East Gippsland Shire Council, 2017d	Section 5.7.5; pg., 82	The closest landfill to the project area is located in Bairnsdale. There are also several waste transfer stations throughout the Shire, with the closest waste transfer station to the project area located at Lindenow (East Gippsland Shire Council, 2021b 2017d).
East Gippsland Water, 2017	Section 5.7.5; pg., 81	East Gippsland Water provides water and wastewater services to 25,400 customers along nine separate water supply systems (East Gippsland Water, 2021a 2017). East Gippsland Water's service spans approximately 21,000 km² from Lindenow, through to Bairnsdale, Paynesville, Lakes Entrance and on to Mallacoota near the New South Wales border, as well as up to the Victorian Alps (East Gippsland Water, 2021a 2017).
	Section 5.7.5; pg., 82	Drinking water for these communities is drawn from the Mitchell River at Glenaladale at a rate of up to 35 megalitres a day and pumped to the Woodglen water storage basins situated 2.5 km from Glenaladale (East Gippsland Water, 2021a 2017). The water is treated at the Woodglen Water Treatment Plant before distribution to the water reticulation network.
East Gippsland Water, 2017	Section 5.2; pg., 43	No residential water restrictions are in place in East Gippsland (East Gippsland Water, 2021b 2018) despite most of Victoria experiencing lower than average rainfall across much of Gippsland in 2020 2017 .

Original data source reference	SEIA section and page number	Updated SEIA extract
		East Gippsland Shire - % children fully immunised at 1 year of age: 94.3% 92.6% East Gippsland Shire – Fertility rate: 2.2 2.4
PHIDU, 2018	Section 5.5.5, Table 5.9; pg., 58	Wellington Shire - % children fully immunised at 1 year of age: 94.8% 93.1% Wellington Shire - Fertility rate: 2.1 2.5
		Victoria - % children fully immunised at 1 year of age: 94.3% 92.9% Victoria - Fertility rate: 1.7 4.8
Rural Bank and Rural Finance, 2018	Section 5.5.8; pg., 66	In 2019 2017, the median price of agricultural land in the East Gippsland Shire was \$4,898 \$5,778 per hectare and \$10,421 \$7,879 per hectare in Wellington Shire. The median price of agricultural land across the Gippsland region decreased by 5.9% in 2019, following two consecutive years of growth of 15.4 and 15.2% increased by 15.4% in 2017, following a decline of 3.8% in 2016 (Rural Bank and Rural Finance, 2020).
Southern Rural Water, 2017	Section 5.7.5; pg., 81	Southern Rural Water operates irrigation districts in Maffra, Bacchus Marsh and Werribee and provides water services to over 10,000 customers over an area of 88,000 km² (Southern Rural Water, 2020 2017).
State of Victoria, 2015	Section 5.7.3; pg., 77	Average Code 1 response times in 2018/19 2013/14 in East Gippsland Shire was approximately 15 minutes and approximately 16 minutes in Wellington Shire (Ambulance Victoria, 2019) ranged from approximately 16 minutes from the Sale station to over 18 minutes from Heyfield station (State of Victoria, 2015).
Tourism Research Australia, 2018	Section 5.6.1; pg., 68	Travel in 2020 was severely impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Across the Gippsland region the number of domestic overnight visitors, domestic daytrips and international overnight visitors declined in the year 2020 2018 by 20%, 26% and 48% respectively 6.2%, 4.6% and 4.3% respectively (Tourism Research Australia, 2020 2018).
		Despite the drop-in visitation, tourism across the Gippsland region was estimated to be worth \$938 million \$785 million to the region's economy in direct and indirect GRP in 2018-19 2016-17 (Tourism Research Australia, 2020 2018).
Tourism Victoria, 2015a	Section 5.6.1; pg., 67	The tourism industry attracted 1.5 million 1.1 million visitors to East Gippsland in 2020 2016, most of whom were domestic day-trip visitors (741,000) followed by domestic and overnight visitors (718,000) and then international visitors (27,000). (629,000) followed by domestic day-trip visitors (477,000) and then international visitors (32,000). In 2020 2014, 5% 12% of all domestic overnight visitors to regional Victoria came to the Gippsland region (Destination Gippsland, 2020) (Tourism Victoria, 2015b).

Original data source reference	SEIA section and page number	Updated SEIA extract
Victorian Agency for Health Information (VAHI), 2018	Section 5.7.2; pg., 76	The Victorian target for emergency department patients treated within time is 81% 80% (VAHI, 2021 2018). Between October and December 2020, 2018 BRHS treated 76% 80% of patients within time in their emergency department. State-wide, in the same period the number was 64% 72%.
Wellington Shire Council, 2017b	Section 5.6.1; pg., 70	Wellington Shire is also committed to supporting business expansion and new business initiatives. The shire also has a team with knowledge, connections and experience to assist with business establishment and growth (Wellington Shire Council, 2021 2017b).
Wellington Shire Council, 2017c	Section 5.7.1; pg., 74	Community led programs are also available to support active learning and socialisation and include play-groups, reading days, arts and crafts events and sporting programs (Wellington Shire Council, 2020a 2017c).
Wellington Shire Council, 2017d	Section 5.7.3; pg., 78	Wellington Shire Council has a Community Emergency Planning Guide to support local communities who want to take an active role in planning for, responding to and recovering from significant emergencies that have the potential to impact on their community (Wellington Shire Council, 2020b 2017d).
Wellington Shire Council, 2017e	Section 5.7.2; pg., 76	Services include oral and ear health, midwifery, child and family support, health promotion and a range of allied health services (Wellington Shire Council, 2017e). Maternal, child, aged and disability health services are available through the Central Gippsland Health Service and Yarram and District Health Service (Wellington Shire Council, 2020c 2017e).
Wellington Shire Council, 2017g	Section 5.7.5; pg., 82	Wellington Shire also provides kerbside garbage and recycling services, landfills and waste transfer stations, along with farm waste services (Wellington Shire Council, 2019 2017g).

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