



Planning Panels Victoria

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

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Melbourne, Victoria 3001
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23 April 2021

East Gippsland Shire Council
C/- Mr Darren Wong, Planology
Via email

Dear Mr Wong

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project – Information Available to Expert Witnesses

Thank you for your correspondence dated 20 April 2021 objecting to the timing and provision of information, specifically that contained in Technical Note 16 (TN 016) relating to Water Infiltration Rate Monitoring and Soil Data results.

The expert meetings or conclaves are an important part of the process leading to the Hearing and the development of the Inquiry and Advisory Committee's (IAC) advice to the Minister for Planning on the Project. They are an opportunity for experts to openly discuss and consider the elements of the Project or issues relevant to their particular fields of expertise and rely on participants having access to the same data and background information.

If the IAC considers the late provision of technical information by any party in this process gives rise to material detriment to another party, then the IAC will consider what steps need to be taken (if any) to ensure procedural fairness is accorded.

The IAC will consider the matter in opening business on the first day of the Hearing on Monday 3 May 2021 as necessary.

If you have any queries please contact Amy Selvaraj at Planning Panels Victoria on Fingerboards.IAC@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nick Wimbush

Chair, Inquiry and Advisory Committee

cc: All parties on the evidence distribution list

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