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A controversial mineral sands mine proposed for eastern Victoria has been rejected by the state planning minister because it poses a

risk to the environment and nearby agriculture.

The 16.75-square-kilometre mine

footprint was planned for an area

kilometres from Melbourne, next to

one of Victoria's most prosperous

near the Mitchell River, 275

sands mine proposed for foodbowls. eastern Victoria Planning Minister RIchard Wynne The Minister cited risks to said the "pose a significant risk to the environment and valuable horticulture industry".

the environment to get this right and ensure only projects that adequately protect our environment go ahead," he said.

"We owe it to the community and

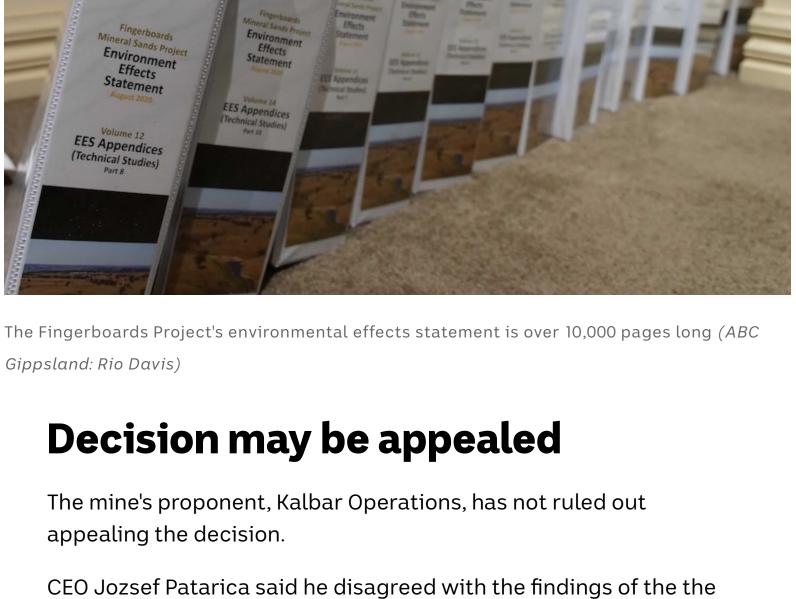
Key points:

the environment and a nearby foodbowl A community group is celebrating after seven

Richard Wynne rejects a

controversial mineral

- years of opposition to the mine

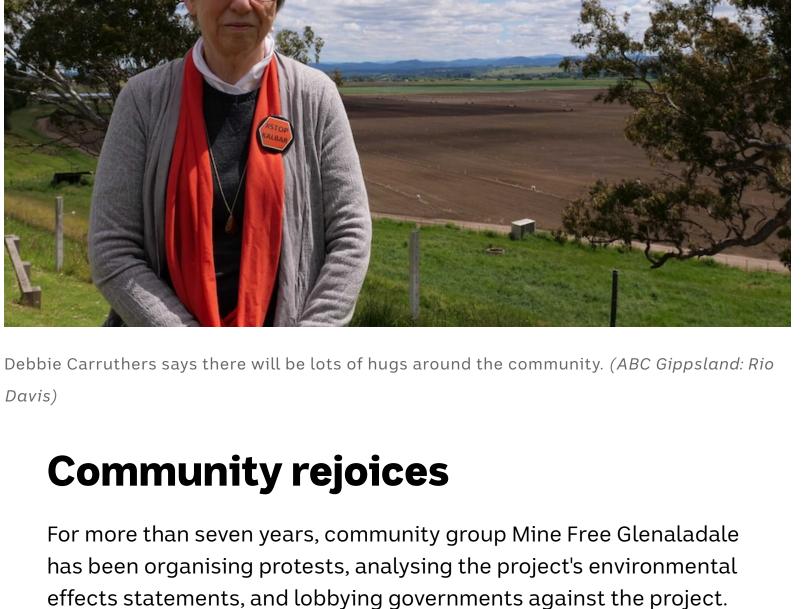


independent advisory committee. "[The project] would operate in harmony with the local people, natural environment, farming, water resources, and other

"Kalbar is committed to the development of the project in a way

industries," he said.

which is consistent with the best interests of the community and will undertake a thorough review of the determination before confirming the next steps for this Project," he said.



Their spokesperson Debbie Carruthers said the community was elated.

"I'm sure we'll be getting together having huge hugs and cries," she

said.

"We felt all along it's been a David and Goliath battle, but our arguments in relation to the environmental effects were so strong, that it had to stop," Ms Carruthers said.



"We all had a big part to play in it, no matter how little impact people

'No choice but to oppose': Victorian council says no to controversial mineral sands

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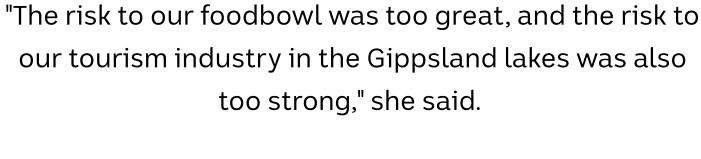
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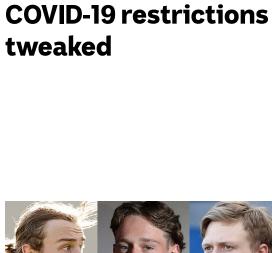
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resumes career with Perth

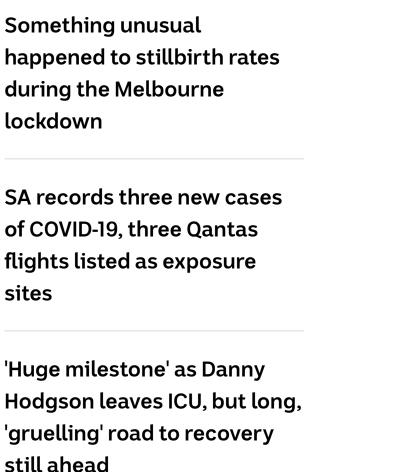
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