

Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Annette Sullivan

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: 1) Belt and Road Initiative The minister, Richard Wynne, who is a member of the labour Party's BRI project with China, will make the ultimate decision on whether this project goes ahead. The outcome seems predetermined as the Mineral sands are bound for China. This is not benefitting the East Gippsland community but serving Dan Andrews Belt and Road initiative in Melbourne. The costs are too high if East Gippsland is loosing its Agricultural and Tourism industries for mineral sands for China so that Melbourne can get an improved road and railway system. Is this just? This will go down in history as the mine that destroyed Bairnsdale and the Gippsland Lakes. East Gippsland is the sacrificial lamb of Dan Andrews BRI. 2) A flawed process There is a direct conflict of interest and there is an urgent need to established a panel that is independent of the influence of the government. The cost of an independent report on the proposed establishment of the mine will be in excess \$200 000. This cost to the community that has already been ravaged by fires, floods and Corona Virus is too high. However the sad state of affairs is, that this report can be overridden by the minister. This is not a fair and just process. 3) Horticulture In the Kalbar EES there are 8 concerns raised with regards to the Horticultural Industry, each one was rated by Kalbar as either "unlikely, limited impact or difficult to compare". So what is the outcome if even one of those concerns proves to be valid. Kalbar Operation Pty. Ltd. has no experience operating a mine and according to their spokesperson it is their sole intention, to sell it on once the minister has given the go ahead. Who will it be sold to, and how will the agreement be enforced if all the "unlikely" all of a sudden become "likely". 4) Agriculture Accountability: what is the meaning of "continuous point of contact, adequate notice, regular updates, involvement with the landholders"? These points are left to Kalbar to determine and could mean once a month or once every two years in order to be satisfied. Many jobs in agriculture (2000 workers) and many more in tourism are threatened. 6) Impact on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage sites. No consultation with Aborigines in the area has been considered in the report. 5) Water The amount of water used by the mine will severely impact all of East Gippsland. Now we want to allow water to be used to settle dust and wash carcinogenic metals into our pristine lakes system? How will this impact on Tourism? 5) Tailings storage Mining companies don't have a good history to running and restoring mines they operate, e.g. the Hazelwood, and also in our immediate neighbourhood on the Tembo river, tailings dams are leaching contaminants into the Gippsland lakes many years after the mine closed down. Who is responsible now? We strongly advocate for a G-force 9 saddle dam to be provided to contain the tailings, as a prerequisite of the Fingerboard mine going ahead.