

Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory
Committee - EES

544

Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Rebecca McCauley

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: I am writing this submission to strongly oppose the EES for the Fingerboards mineral sands mine project for the reasons outlined below: - Lack of respect / consultation with Traditional Owners - The adverse affect this project will have on the environment and associated carbon emissions. With Gippsland still recovering from the heartbreaking fires of last summer now is the time to invest in sustainable practices not capital driven destruction - Kalbar's geochemistry report lists a number of radioactive and cancer-causing substances that will be present in the dust generated. - The \$155M/year Mitchell River Valley vegetable industry that employs up to 2,000 people is as close as 500m downwind from the mine. - Kalbar needs over 3 billion litres of water annually for processing and dust suppression for 15 years. This shows how much water is needed to control the dust which will potentially pose major human and animal health risks. - Kalbar's high need for water could lead to earlier and tighter restrictions on users reliant on water from the Mitchell River (such as the horticulture industry) and is likely to impact the health of the Gippsland Lakes from reduced fresh water. - There are concerns that jobs in tourism and agriculture are at risk from potential contamination of the river and crops. As a regular visitor to Gippsland and its last remaining wilderness this mine is greatly distressing.