

# Submission Cover Sheet

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project Inquiry and Advisory  
Committee - EES

# 114

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**Request to be heard?:** Yes

**Full Name:** Donald Scott

**Organisation:**

**Affected property:**

**Attachment 1:** EES.docx

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** see attached submission

Dear Enquiry and Advisory Committee members;

I write this submission about the EES for the Fingerboards mineral sands mine project, which I very strongly oppose, for a number of reasons mostly outlined below.

I live in East Bairnsdale and have done so for the last 17 years: my house overlooks the escarpment above Jones Bay and the Mitchell River. From my house I have a view to the west from Bairnsdale Oval, near the sale yards, all the way around to the end of the Mitchell River silt jetties overlooking Broadlands, so well past Eagle Point Bluff in the east. I am specific about this as south south westerly from my house at about 4 km is Bairnsdale Quarry, at the end of Johnstons' Road. This quarry under the right conditions sends plumes of DUST right across my southerly vista, at times blocking out the view from the southern escarpment of the Morass all the way around to sometimes past Eagle Point Bluff. I have acquaintances living in in Broadlands who are only on tank water, and I see and hear of their problems with obtaining clean drinking water.

I mention this point specifically as:

-The proposed sand mining site has the same orientation to the prime vegetable growing areas of the Lindenow Flats as my home and Broadlands is to the Bairnsdale Quarry. Should these be contaminated the 40 odd permanent jobs the sand mine mite create will be for negative value to our region.

-The above mentioned Bairnsdale Quarry is supposed to have a dust abatement strategy, which seems to not only not policed, but not abided by. So, what would be different for Kalabar?

Comparing the water currently used by Bairnsdale and the local growers, Kalabar's requirements far exceed current available water; where are they going to get their requirements from.

The proposed 90 hectare tailings dam located above the Mitchell and Perry rivers, seems to be an accident awaiting to happen, considering the 2 floods I have witnessed in my time living here.

Rehabilitation is mentioned, I wonder why, I have yet to find one ex mining site that has been fully rehabilitated and returned to its original state either as farming land or natural bush, always some one on site upkeeping it or finishing off the rehabilitation work. Is there anywhere in Australia I have missed?

With all the above why didn't the mine's initial project area include compulsory acquisition of private land for all the mine's infrastructure requirement, including:- roadworks, easements, rail siding areas, new powerlines, bore field work, bore pumps, natural vegetation removal; and why isn't all this up to the east Gippsland Council to police.

I thank you for the opportunity to address the panel and look forward to speaking at the public hearings.

Regards Donald Scott