
Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Marie-Louise Drew

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members I am writing this submission about the EES for the Fingerboards mineral sands mine, which I oppose, mostly due to the proposed mine's voracious appetite for water. I live in Fairfield in Melbourne, and care about our agriculture industry. It feeds us. Kalbarri Operations P/L is a new company with no experience operating a mine, proposed to be 13km square on a plateau which is above the Mitchell River and vegetable fields of the valley and up to 45m deep. Kalbar's geochemistry report lists a number of radioactive and carcinogenic substances that will be present in the dust generated. The \$155 million a year Mitchell River valley vegetable industry that employs 2000 people is close by at 500m downwind from the proposed mine. The Mitchell River which irrigates these veggies is 350m downwind. Too close. Mining is a job poor industry, both directly and indirectly. Kalbarri will need 3 billion litres of water annually. This in a drought prone country. It could lead to earlier and tighter water restrictions on users reliant on water from the Mitchell River (such as horticulture industries) and is likely to adversely affect the Gippsland lakes with reduced fresh water. Jobs in tourism and agriculture are also at risk from contamination of the river and crops. Thank you.