

Request to be heard?: No - but please email me a copy of the Timetable and any Directions

Full Name: April Newton

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: I am writing to object to the proposed Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project on environmental grounds, in consideration of the significant environmental damage that the construction and operation of the mineral sands mine will cause immediately and over its projected lifetime of 20 years. Research conducted into proposed mine site has raised strong concerns for biodiversity, environmental and cultural heritage, rare and threatened species and the health of the broader Gippsland Lakes system. The mine requires the removal of huge areas of vegetation that have so far survived the last 150 of dramatic changes to land use and the environment in the area, and now function as life boats for dozens of rare and threatened species. 400 mature shade and habitat trees will be removed, many of which have occupied the site of the proposed mine site since long before our civilisation set foot in this region. The enormous requirements this mine has for water, the potential for dangerous particles to contaminate our food bowl and the grotesque 200,000 metric tons of Greenhouse gas emissions predicted to result from this mine are all incredibly concerning. Combined with the physical environmental impact this project will have, they add up to a mine which is entirely inappropriate for our region, or indeed any region on this earth. In a time of climate emergency and an impending collapse of biodiversity in this country and the ecosystems we all rely on to survive, such an environmentally damaging project is entirely unacceptable and cannot be approved by any forward-thinking department. Approving this project will be a mistake for which our environment, our health, our unique ecosystems and the beauty of our region will pay the price. The mine operators and those who support them will be the last to pay the price, but if projects such as this continue to be considered reasonable, practicable and acceptable, then pay it they surely will.