

Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project EES Inquiry and Advisory Committee

Member Biographies

Surname	First Name	Biography
Chair		
Wimbush	Nick	Nicholas (Nick) Wimbush was appointed as Deputy Chief Panel Member in early 2018, following 13 years as a Senior Panel Member. He has undergraduate qualifications in environmental science and postgraduate qualifications in public policy and law. He has significant expertise in environmental assessment including mining and mineral sands proposal, coastal planning and strategic planning. He has previously worked in the private sector in Australia and overseas including in mining rehabilitation. Mr Wimbush is a Fellow of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association. Mr Wimbush has chaired a number of Panels, EES Inquiries and Advisory Committees, including the North East Link EES Inquiry in 2019, the West Gate Tunnel Project EES Inquiry in 2017, and the Ombersley Quarry Advisory Committee.
Deputy Chair		
Reifschneider	Natasha	Natasha Reifschneider is a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria. She has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Planning), and Diploma of Natural Resource Management. Natasha is an environmental assessment and planning practitioner with over twenty years' experience in the management and delivery of impact assessment and environmental approvals for the industrial and infrastructure sector. Natasha's technical area of focus is navigating environmental approvals for projects and providing strategic advice on the development and delivery of projects to manage and achieve environmental approval requirements, coupled with the development and delivery of community and stakeholder engagement programs. Natasha's core strengths are in management of multidisciplinary teams, options assessment, statutory approvals and consultation/ engagement. Natasha has previously worked in both State and Local Government in statutory approvals prior to her current employment in the private sector as a consultant.
Members		
Gibbs	Meredith	Meredith Gibbs is a skilled legal practitioner, specialising in planning & environment, water and climate change law. With over 25 years' experience, Meredith brings her strong analytical and conceptual skills together with demonstrated ability to provide advice in high-pressure, complex environments to Planning Panels Victoria. Meredith is recognised in Australia's <i>Best Lawyers</i> for her expertise in Planning & Environment Law, Climate Change Law (10-year award 2020; Lawyer of the Year 2011), Natural Resources Law, Government Practice and Energy Law. Her commercial law experience includes Partner in the planning & environment team at HWL Ebsworth, Special Counsel at global firms Baker McKenzie and Ashurst, and Senior Solicitor with Hesketh Henry lawyers. Meredith has also held positions as a Senior Lecturer in Planning Law at Massey University, Environmental Law Lecturer at the Universities of Auckland and Melbourne, and consultant to a Maori tribal authority.

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Ginivan	John	John Ginivan is an experienced strategic planner with effective leadership capability, extensive multidisciplinary knowledge, personal integrity and good governance principles developed through a broad public sector career. He has held executive director positions within the Planning portfolio with accountability for strategic policy, statutory approvals and environmental impact assessment. He is a keen coastal advocate and was instrumental in the legislative process to establish the inaugural Victorian Coastal Council. He has played a key role in linking planning and building responses to climate risks and emergency management and continues to support innovation in bushfire response capability. John is sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria and a Director on the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve Foundation.