

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

Full Name: James Harker

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: I am opposed to this mine for the following reasons: • The vegetable industry in the Lindenow Valley is only 500m downwind from the mine with most of the vegetables grown above ground, so dust from the mine is a high risk. You don't want to eat contaminated vegetables or risk that industry being shut down which could result in big job and financial losses for our region. • There are radioactive substances being mined including rare-earths, undisturbed these substances do not pose a health risk but when excavated crushed and concentrated toxic dust is generated. • The full analysis of the ore body hasn't been disclosed, despite repeated requests. We don't trust the information in the EES because we don't know what they have analysed. We don't know the real dangers to human/animal health. • Noise from a mine operating 24 hours a day 7 days a week will be untenable and very stressful. • It is irresponsible for the Government to put the community at risk. The number of houses near the mine has been under-reported. • Council's 'Lindenow & District Community Plan' did not foresee a mine in that area. • Government needs to recognise the pre-existing residential and agricultural land use should never have competition from mining companies. • Water to irrigate the crops comes from the Mitchell River. The mine is on the other side of the river on top of a plateau. There are risks of the river being contaminated, impacting on the crops, fishing, agriculture, the health of the rivers, and the Gippsland Lakes (an important Ramsar-listed wetland). • Unknown Aboriginal cultural heritage sites are stated as being highly likely to be present and will be impacted. Given the massive excavation down to 45m, it will be impossible to avoid the destruction of artifacts and heritage. This is unacceptable. Their mitigation measures will not avoid the obliteration of cultural heritage. • There will be a tailings dam 90 hectares in size, that's nearly 1 square km. It will contain mine tailings waste and flocculants (chemicals used to treat the tailings) which have warnings on safety data sheets about being harmful to aquatic life. • Located on high ground above both the Perry and Mitchell Rivers there is a stated risk of leaching from the dam. If there is a 1 in a 100-year flood, tailings waste & flocculants could be released into the creeks/rivers, harming aquatic life and aquifers. • The risks are considerable and foreseeable given the many examples of dam failures (Benambra example) so the risk of failure can't be low. There are no details in the EES for the dam's construction so how can the risk of failure be low! • Over 3 billion litres of water (3GL) is required by the mine annually for up to 15 years (the maximum life of the mine) for processing and to control dust. This shows how big a problem dust is. What will the impact of this be on bores, aquifers and the Mitchell River?