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Request to be heard?: No

**Full Name:** Eve Fraser

**Organisation:**

**Affected property:**

**Attachment 1:**

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** Wednesday October 28 2020 Dear Inquiry and Advisory Committee members, I am writing in response to the EES conducted by Kalbar for the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Mine Project. I often work and travel in the area and my family farms runs along the Mitchell. These are the reasons below I do not believe the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Mine Project should go ahead at Glenaladale, East Gippsland:

- 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 destruction of artefacts and heritage. Mitigation measures will not avoid the obliteration of cultural heritage. We have seen more than enough destruction of Aboriginal heritage in Australia this year.
- Kalbar's high need for water could lead to earlier and tighter restrictions on users reliant on water from the Mitchell River (such as the horticulture industry) and is likely to impact the health of the Gippsland Lakes from reduced fresh water.
- 13 square kms on a plateau which is above the Heritage listed Mitchell River and the vegetable fields of the Mitchell River Valley is to be mined up to 45m deep. If there is runoff 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).

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. Yours sincerely, Eve Fraser