

MEDIA RELEASE

31 August 2020

Fingerboards Project public comment opens

Kalbar Operations (Kalbar) will release the Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the Fingerboards Mineral Sands Project on Thursday 3 September after three years of technical investigations and community consultation marking a significant milestone for the project.

The EES will be on public exhibition for a minimum of 40 business days.

The EES has been prepared by Kalbar, as directed by the Victorian Minister for Planning and guided by a multi-agency Technical Reference Group.

The EES has involved more than 30 studies, all of which will be available to the public as part of the process.

The Fingerboards is considered to be one of the world's most significant mineral sands resources, providing zircon, titanium minerals (rutile and ilmenite) and rare-earth minerals for use in technology, transport, renewables, medical, household and personal applications.

Kalbar Chief Executive Officer, Jozsef Patarica, said: "This is a major milestone for the project and an opportunity for the community and stakeholders to review the scientific evidence and information and make submissions on the EES."

"We have met the requirements for the EES studies and have asked for, and received, a great deal of community feedback over the past three years," Mr Patarica said.

"This project can bring many benefits to East Gippsland and the EES demonstrates that the project can be delivered with appropriate management of environmental impacts," Mr Patarica said.

"On behalf of Kalbar I would like to thank the community for their input during the process and also Kalbar employees who have made a significant contribution to delivering the EES for public exhibition," he said.

The Environment Effects Statement documents are available on the Fingerboards Project web site or by contacting Kalbar Operations.

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