

No Mining At Glenaladale

After I heard the news that a mineral sands mine was proposed just outside of Lindenow at the fingerboards I went to a community meeting to find out about the risks that the mine may cause. What I didn't expect was to find out about the aboriginal history of the area. The fingerboards on Gunai Kurnai land ran the boundary of the Brayakooloong and Brabuwooloong clans. They used the area for trade and fighting grounds. Down the road from the Den of Nargun. I wondered where the tribes camped and where the men's business was carried out. The farmers of the area have been so friendly and welcoming with stories passed down through the generations of the Koori camps that were in the area. One farmer's dad found traditional breads on his property when he was ploughing the land; . We explored the area with the guide of one of the farmers gathering stories from the locals and came across a camping ground that was not ploughed. And still today artefact's lying on the ground untouched. And not to forget about Skull Creek massacre that happen 7km away from this mine site. I strongly believe that camp areas are connected to this horrible history that happen. We must NOT let these areas to be destroyed. Scar trees have been found along the road that is proposed to be ripped up and I feel like we are only touching the surface of the history of the area. I hope to find more before it is lost. The Mitchel River we know that was a known main food source and the mine is proposed to be only meters from the river, tearing up the land for 15 km. I am disappointed that the land owners are trying to protect the heritage of the land as they are now caretaking the land and are emotionally attracted to where some of them have lived all their lives. Its sad to know that land can be taken and sites destroyed still today, even with people pushing against it. I'm a Gunai kurnai man and feel that so much is lost its our role to find out as much as we can and protect what is left of our cultural areas. The loss of land isn't my only concern but some of the minerals are toxic and could leach into the rivers and with being dug down 45meters that a lot of toxic dusts blow on our veggies next to the mine site. And note that our health we be at risk.

If we don't stand up to protect Gunai Kurnai land then who will.

Please sign a petition against the mine and all stand together strong.

Alan Solomon