

Community Reference Group

MEETING #3

08 Aug 2025



Today's Agenda

Meeting Agenda	Duration	Time	Lead
Starting Time >		13:00	
Welcome & Introductions	0:15	13:15	Chair
Project Updates: Progress & Approvals, Mine Design	0:50	14:05 N	Michelle, Stefan, Ryan
& Studies, Community & Stakeholder Engagement			
BREAK + PHOTOGRAPHS	0:20	14:25	All
Open Discussion, Q&A	1:15	15:40	All
Meeting Wrap Up & Next Steps	0:20	16:00	Chair

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Welcome & Introductions





Gippsland Critical Minerals acknowledges the Gunaikurnai People as the Traditional Custodians of Country that encompasses the proposed Fingerboards Project area.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and recognise their enduring connection to the land, waters, culture, and community.



Role & Composition of the CRG

The Community Reference Group (CRG) is a key advisory body designed to facilitate engagement between our project team and the local community.

The CRG provides feedback and input to guide our project decisions, ensuring community perspectives are considered throughout the process.

The CRG:

- consists of **16 members** appointed for a two-year term
- is facilitated by an Independent Chairperson
- attended by Project Representatives and specialists who are invited as needed



Project Updates

Project Progress & Approvals



Michelle Wood

Mine Design & Studies



Stefan WolmaransProject Director - Technical

Community & Stakeholder Engagement



Ryan LeslieProject Director – Community &
Stakeholder Engagement

Project Timeline



Oct 2024

RETENTION LICENCE

GCM receives retention license (RL)

Back to the

drawing

board

2026 - 2027

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

Scoping & impact assessment Technical & environmental studies completed

Demonstration Pit & Rehab Trial

Formal public consultation Public exhibition & submissions Minister's assessment

2029 - 2030

PRODUCTION BEGINS

GCM begins mining and ramps up to full production



PROJECT RE-SCOPE

Re-scope and carry out technical & environmental studies, introducing industry best practice and addressing previous EES findings

Early stakeholder engagement & communications Forming a Community Reference Group **Design of Community Benefit Sharing plan** Submit an environmental self-referral in Dec

2027 - 2029

EXECUTION & CONSTRUCTION

GCM reaches a final investment decision and begins construction

Environmental Assessment Process

















Referral of proposed project

Called a 'self-referral', the
Regulator requires
GCM to submit
an overview of
the project to
the Minister for
Planning by
December 2025.

Decision on need for impact assessment

The Minister for Planning determines the environmental approval process (for example - an EES).

Scoping of impact assessment

environmental studies that will examine potential impacts of the project are scoped and exhibited for public feedback.

The technical and

Preparing impact assessment & undertaking studies

Environmental and technical studies are undertaken and completed.

Public review of impact assessment

Completed environmental and technical studies are exhibited for public review.

Minister's assessment

The Minister for Planning makes an assessment about the Project and whether it will proceed.

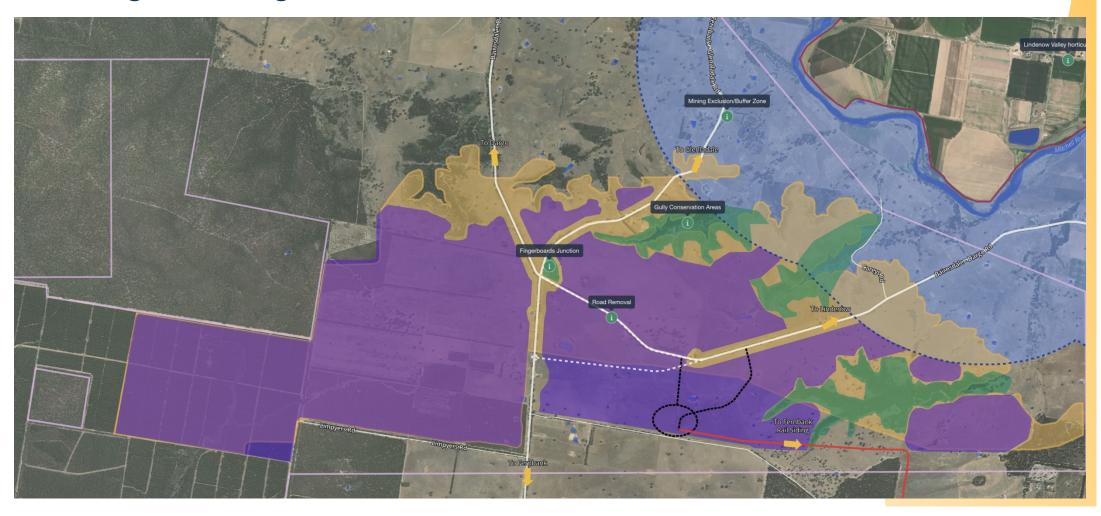
Consideration of Minister's assessment by statutory decision-makers

Statutory decisionmakers consider the assessment.

Source: planning.vic.gov.au



Project Layout





Mine Design Update

Work has focussed on the development of the final landform and the rehabilitation surface.

Our design starts at the rehabilitation surface and then we design mining to achieve the landform.

Mining design environmental objectives are:

- Minimise the exposed area at any point in time (<15% target)
- Minimise rehandle of material for rehab to commence early
- Minimise surface haul volumes and distances
- Manage surface water

Initial forms the starting point for ongoing dust, noise and surface water impact assessment and will then be adjusted in an iterative design process.



Mine Design Update

First draft <u>design</u> has been completed to commence impact assessment and adjustment





Typical Mobile Mining Unit (MMU)

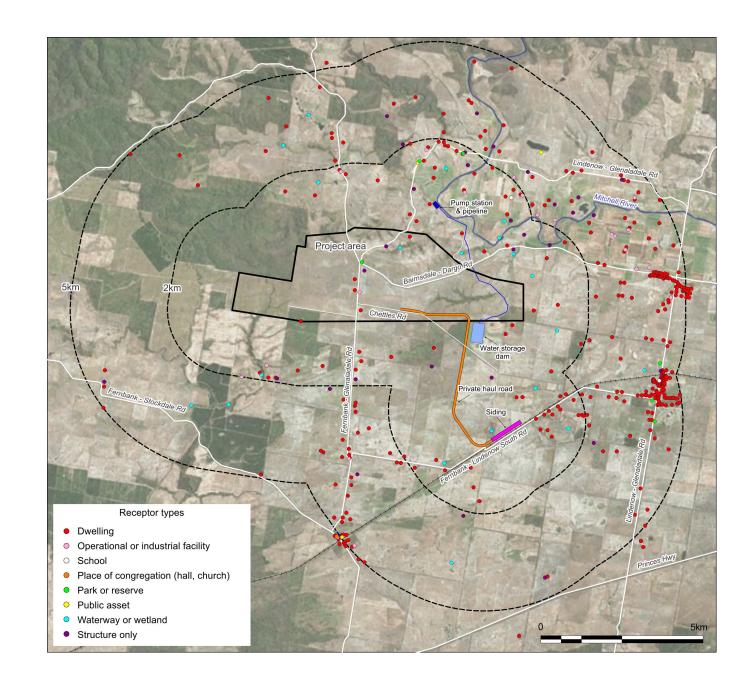




Typical Wet Concentrator Plant (WCP)



Receptor Mapping





Environmental and Technical Studies

Ecology	Assessment of ecological values and sensitive areas	
Flora and Fauna Surveys	Species surveys, habitat assessments, biodiversity significance	
Surface Water	Surface water quality and flows to receiving waterways	
Groundwater	Groundwater flow and quality within local and regional groundwater systems	
Water Supply	Water supply options	
Cultural Heritage	Studies of Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage	
Visual and Landscape	Assessment of visual impacts and landscape character	
Land Use and Planning	Compatibility with current and future land uses	
Traffic and Transport	Impacts of construction and operations on road networks	
Economic Development	Economic contribution and regional development benefits	



Environmental and Technical Studies

Social Impact	Community wellbeing, population, and amenity impacts
Air Quality	Air quality impacts on receptors
Noise and Vibration	Noise and vibration impacts to receptors
Radiation	Radiation safety on site and offsite
Human Health	Potential effects on public health from project activities
Agriculture and Horticulture	Assessment of potential impacts on local agriculture and horticulture
Geotechnical Conditions	Subsurface conditions relevant to project safety and design
Soils	Soil characteristics, erosion potential, and handling requirements
Rehabilitation	Panning for progressive rehabilitation and final landform restoration

Baseline Monitoring



To inform the specific technical studies within the Environmental Impact Assessment, GCM has commenced a comprehensive baseline monitoring program.

This monitoring is designed to establish a clear understanding of existing environmental conditions across the project area and its surrounds.

Weather	Ongoing climate and atmospheric data collection
Air Quality and Dust	Air particulate sampling, quantity and composition
Surface Water	Monitoring of flow rates and water quality in local waterways
Groundwater	Includes both regional and site-specific (re-supply) monitoring
Noise	Existing noise levels to inform modelling and future management of operational impacts
Radiation	Background radiation levels at and around the project site

CRG Key Recommendations



Give CRG members the floor More CRG members with diverse experience & perspectives grants to have a more local / legacy focus

Local jobs & procurement

More detailed receptor mapping

More
engagement
with
landholders &
near
neighbours

Better dust & noise modelling

Shared water infrastructure opportunities



Engagement Channels

Community
Reference Group

One-on-one Meetings Briefings,
Presentations &
Site Tours

Drop-in Sessions

Events & Field Days



Website

+ Chatbot

Webinars

Virtual Showroom



Newsletters

Mail Drops

~5km Mail Drop

Local Media

Advertisments Media Releases Print, Radio Social Media

Facebook LinkedIn Information

Info Sheets Flyers Maps

Dear Local Resident



Scan the QR Code:



265 Fernbank-Glenaladale Rd, Fernbank Vic 3864 contactus@gippslandcriticalmine

August 2025

lam writing to update you on our work to rescope the Fingerboards Critical Minerals Project, the process for the project iam writing to update you on our work to rescape the imagerboards Citibus members arruped from here, and connect you with team members who can directly answer your questions.

As you may be aware, in October 2024, the Victorian Covernment renewed CCM's Retention Licenses for the project. As you may be aware, in October 2024, the Victorian Covernment renewed GCM's Retention Licenses for the project. Over the past nine months, we have been working to rescope and design a new project that responds to community and government feedback on the 2021 proposal, creates greater environmental protections, and contributes to the growth of the local economy.

One rucal economy.

Enclosed is a summary of the proposed key initial changes and an overview of the approval process, You can also view an interactive map showing the new mining and retention license area on our website. An updated map with additional cleanly included the proposed mining sequence over the life of the mine and areas proposed for equipment and storage, will be released in the coming months.

Over the coming year, we will be conducting new environmental and technical studies, including monitoring, to better understand the baseline local conditions and environment. These studies will examine economic benefits and jobs as well as potential impacts such as dust and air quality, ecology, water and cultural heritage. To complete these studies, our scientists and technical specialists will undertake minor works, such as installing monitors within the new mining and population.

Please note: CCM will only need access to a small number of properties to complete our studies, and we will make Please note: CCM will only need access to a small number of properties to complete our studies, and we will make direct contact with the property owner before accessing any property. This may include putting in place a Land Access Agreement with appropriate compensation.

Agreement with appropriate complexation.

Once these studies are complete in 2026, they will be exhibited for public review and feedback before the Minister for the Minister for feedback before the Minister feedback before the Ministe

As we undertake this work, we want to ensure that community feedback continues to shape the project. We welcome ongoing As we undertake this work, we want to ensure that community feedback continues to shape the project. We welcome organic insult and are available to meet with residents, landholders and local organizations to better understand local priorities and expectations. We are also exploring how the project can deliver learning benefits, including local jobs, partmenships with regional organizations, and investment in initiatives that support the community begond the life of the mine.

Over the next few weeks, our team will also be visiting some households surrounding the proposed Over the next few weeks, our team will also be visiting some households surrounding the proposed project area to share information and answer any questions directly. Scan the QR code, email us call or text a COM team member to provide us with your best contact details and receive regular updates. You can also opt out of any communications, COM will continue to provide regular updates on our website, on Facebook as well as via local newspapers and our community newsletter.

on our website, on Facebook as well as via local newspapers and our community newsietter.

As there are currently several projects underway in East Clippsland, if you are unsure it is GCM
that is working in your area, you can always call us on 1800 791 396 to verify. If you would like to
that is working in your area, you can always call us on 1800 791 396 to yethy. If you would like to
meet with us or to update your details, contact Alison Heskey Qr947 500 196 or Murray Holland
on 0400 716 811 or email us at contactus@pijepslandcriticalminerals.com



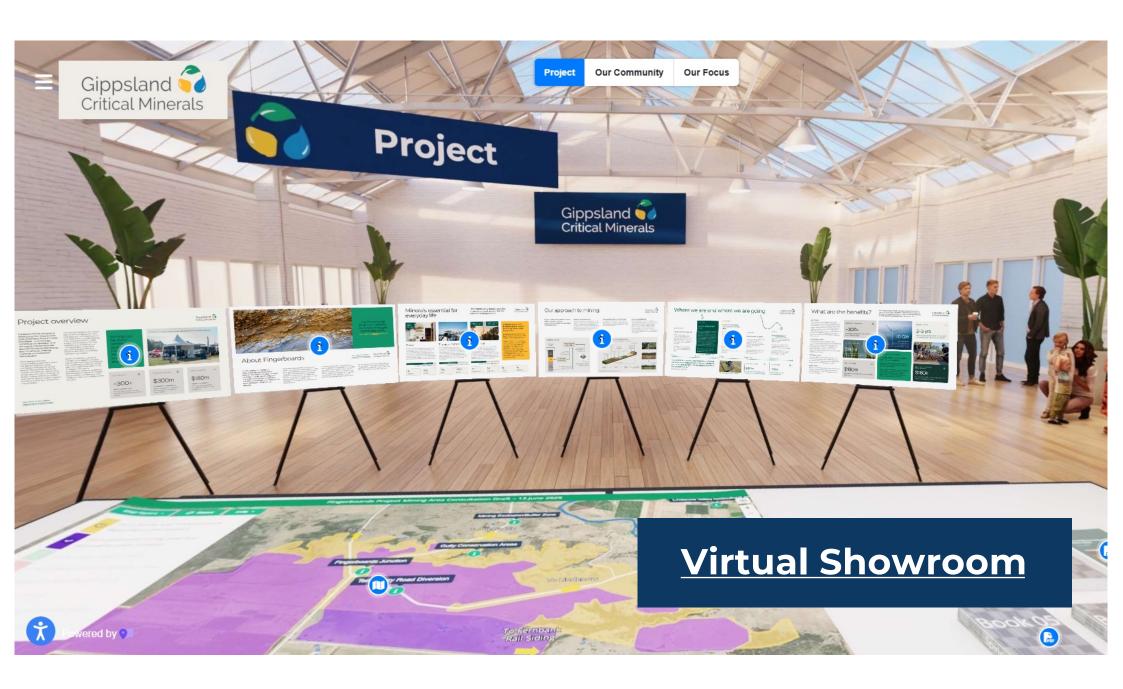
We look forward to hearing from you.

Michelle Wood

Michelle Wood Chief Executive Officer



Gippsland 🚺 Critical Minerals



Key Public Engagements



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Benefit Sharing



PILLAR 1

Cultural Heritage Protection and First Nations Empowerment



Co-design a Benefit Sharing Plan that supports the needs and aspirations of the Gunaikurnai community, supports reconciliation and healing of Country and strengthens opportunities for the future.

PILLAR 2

Local Employment,
Procurement, and
Workforce Development



Create sustainable economic growth and employment opportunities for East Gippsland and Wellington Shires throughout and beyond the lifetime of the Fingerboards Project.

PILLAR 3

Investment in Local
Infrastructure and Legacy
Assets



Create enduring regional value beyond the mine's operational life by delivering infrastructure co-benefits for public and industry use and regional capacity building.

PILLAR 4

Community Vibrancy and Liveability



Support initiatives that enhance community connectedness, pride, wellbeing, and lifestyle.

Benefit Sharing



PILLAR 4

Community Vibrancy and Livability



Support initiatives that enhance community connectedness, pride, wellbeing, and lifestyle.

4.1 Partnerships

Multi-year funding and support to NFP organisations.

4.2 Sponsorships

Financial or in-kind support for community, cultural, industry, educational, or sporting awards and events.

4.3 Grants

Funding community-led ideas, projects, or services that address local needs or create lasting benefits. The program supports community initiatives that enhance the quality of life, heritage, recreation and cultural opportunities, and provide long lasting benefits to the local community.



Let's take a break



Members to have the floor Open Discussion, Q&A





Meeting Wrap Up & Next Steps

