

Experts to assess Mary Valley manganese mine potential

By Jo Skinner

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Gympie MP David Gibson says any future mining in the region must be outside the footprint of the defunct Traveston Crossing dam project.

Eclipse Metals will send a team of geologists to the Mary Valley early next year to assess the viability of a manganese mine.

However, Mr Gibson says the exploration permits are well outside the restricted area.

"The footprints for the exploration permits are outside of the restricted area," he said.

"No exploration permits are permitted within the old Traveston dam proposal area and as such no exploration can occur in that restricted area, so this is well outside of that."

Mr Gibson says a potential manganese mine is still a long way from fruition.

He says it is far too early to get excited about the economic benefits of such a project.

"Look, I think it's very early days and exploration permits were issued back in 2009/2010, so the permits have been in place for quite a few years now," he said.

"The company has, as a result of the desktop study, decided to progress it but I think it's some time away before we can confidently say that this would be good news for the Mary Valley."

Topics: mining-industry, states-and-territories, gympie-4570, bundaberg-4670, maroochydore-4558
