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RYLSTONE, NSW 2849

The Director,  
Resource Assessments,  
Planning and Assessment,  
DPIE,  
Locked Bag 5022,  
Parramatta,  
NSW 2124

Dear Sir,

APPLICATION NAME: BOWDENS SILVER MINE AMENDMENT  
APPLICATION NUMBER: SSD5765  
**AMD AND LOW GRADE ORE**

I **object** to this proposal (SSD 5765).

I declare that I **have not made any Donations or Gifts** to any political party or personnel in the last two years.

Low Grade Ore may have little content of the target metals but it is still essentially derives from Sulphide Ore (Galena). It will be stockpiled, around 2.7 million tonnes, in the open and unsealed, near the north end of the WRE. 2.6.1.2 (GCA 2020) confirms it as PAF.

Bowdens says: *'Low grade ore amd oxide ore generated by the mining operations....would be tockpiled.....In the event that they are not processed,, quantities of the low grade ore and oxide ore may remain in part or in full at the end of the Project life'* (Executive Summary)

These open deposits 'may' be processed at some stage (not planned or committed by Bowdens). Otherwise they are open to water (rain and runoff), oxygen and inoculation by *Acidithiobacillus* thus forming uncontrolled runoff of acid (Sulphuric Acid).

The assertion by Dr Haydn Washington that AMD caused this way is rated second only to Climate Change (as a global environmental problem) needs to be taken seriously. Bowdens plan for open low grade ore stockpiles is not acceptable. This is to have a huge environmental impact and Bowdens doesn't mention it and also show no will to do anything about it.

The 2.7 million tonnes of sulphide rock is quite susceptible to weathering. It is broken and exposed to oxygen and water.

Furthermore once the acid has formed it is in solution and cannot be precipitated or flocculated and separated and collected like dusts and colloids can be. Bowdens have not proposed any treatment of this runoff. Even mixing it with a base like Caustic Soda it would then add a new foreign soluble compound to Lawsons Creek, Sodium sulphate. It should not be formed or discharged to the Macquarie River system.

Bowdens have made detailed plans for permanent encapsulation of PAF in the WRE. But Low Grade Ore is also PAF. They are choosing to ignore 2.7 million tonnes of sulphide ore and certainly doing nothing about it for 16.5 years. Acid could leach into the Macquarie system for hundreds of years

This is highly irresponsible of Bowdens and the proposal to mine should be rejected.

Yours sincerely,

Chi 9/8

R C Plummer