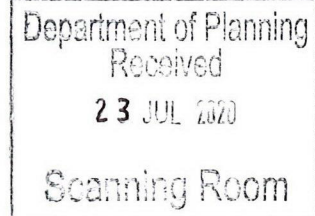




PCU079867

Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124



SUBMISSION

Date 21/7/2020

Name

Address

KANDOS NSW 2848

Applicant – Bowdens Silver Pty Limited

Application Number - SSD-5765

Application – Bowdens Silver Mine

I object to the BOWDENS SILVER MINE proposal.

I declare I have not made a reportable political donation in the previous 2 years.

I would like my submission to be anonymous.

I request that you please withhold my name, do not publish my name on your website and remove my name from any documents that are already published on your website.

Submission – Proposed Bowdens Silver Mine, Lue – SSD 5765

I object to the proposed Silver Mine in Lue and would like the application to be refused.

I live and work in the Rylstone/Kandos region and a lot of the customers that I look after live in the Lue region. This area is for farming and tourism and not for mining.

I have a background in earthmoving, water carting, excavating and farming so I understand the problems that can occur when things go wrong.

From this experience I know about these practices (and I know how things get hidden and covered up) and I feel that this project will be a disaster, and not just for our current generation but for our future generations. This is not about us or our kids but our grandkids, and this project is just about people making money from other people's suffering.

My main areas of concern are around water contamination, the impacts on the water table, lead dust and the issue of cyanide poisoning.

WATER CONTAMINATION

I am worried that the tailings dam is too large, and in the wrong place as it's on a creek. The design and mitigation measures are not good enough and will fail and ruin the ecosystem. This area is too unique to risk this happening and the region too special. These creeks run into the Cudgegong River and Mudgee and will ruin the livelihoods of a lot of farmers on the way.

I have experienced first-hand the failing of a tailings dam at a coal mine that I was working at. There had been a big storm leading up to the incident with a lot of rain. The bottom dam started leaking and it was also built in a valley. The water started leaking out and over several days a hole appeared and the centre of the dam wall collapsed. We had to spend the next three months cleaning up coal mud for about a kilometre. This was around 15 years ago, and whilst the creek has recovered a bit, the damage was massive, and this was not even acid forming material. I fear that if this dam were to fail, the spilled waste would probably reach the Cudgegong River.

WATER TABLE

I understand the massive negative impacts that this project will have on the water table. The farmers will lose all their water and all of the ecosystems that rely on the Lawsons and Hawkins Creek will die as a result. These impacts will be made worse by the impacts of climate change, including ongoing persistent drought conditions.

DUST

My worry is that the lead dust will travel much further than what they are predicting and will reach the Rylstone/Kandos townships and the Mudgee region. We know the lead dust is toxic and particularly dangerous to small children and adults to a degree. Concern about this issue is causing people to leave this area which is devastating for our local industries.

CYANIDE

I am also worried about the danger of cyanide poisoning. I have looked into this on the internet and I understand that cyanide can kill livestock if they eat contaminated grass and it is difficult to detect.

Again, I object to this project going ahead and I don't understand how this project can be approved when it presents such an unacceptable risk to the village of Lue and the whole Region.