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7 April 2022

Attention: Rose-Anne Hawkeswood NSW Department of Planning & Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Rose-Anne

## SUBJECT: AMENDMENT BOWDENS SILVER PROJECT (SSD-5765)

Council has reviewed the proposed amendment which includes removal of the water supply pipeline, amendment to the mine site layout to support the proposed integrated water management and supply strategy and amendment to the alignment of the 500kV transmission power line.

Councils concerns raised in its original submission, dated 27 July 2020, are still relevant and represent Council's overall feedback in relation to the project - unless negated by the proposed modifications (eg. construction of Water Pipeline). As indicated in the original submission, water supply and water quality remains a high priority for the region. The severe drought in recent years has demonstrated that water is a highly valuable resource and Council does not support any potential threat to existing town water supplies or the amount of water available for rural property owners for domestic and agricultural purposes.

The amendment report demonstrates that Bowdens Silver is aware of the critical importance of water both to the project and the broader community, and has developed an integrated water management and supply strategy. This strategy makes a number of commitments to reduce the project demand on water sources including increasing the capacity of the project to recover, recycle, store and re-use water, and manage potential impacts to surface water resources and downstream water users. If the project is approved, it is critical that the development consent reflects the commitments made through appropriate conditions of consent.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the matters raised above in further detail, please contact Council on (02) 6378 2850.

JULIE ROBERTSON

DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT