

Rose-Anne Hawkeswood
Team Leader
Resources Assessment,
Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment.
PO Box 39,
Sydney NSW, 2001

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Your ref: SSD 5765

rose-anne.hawkeswood@planning.nsw.gov.au

Bowdens Silver Mine (SSD 5765) Environmental Impact Statement

Dams Safety NSW (DSNSW) has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement for Bowdens Silver Mine (SSD 5765) and has the following comments. The project proposes construction of a Tailings Storage Facility (TSF). It is proposed to construct a dam with a maximum height of 56m. The consequence of dam failure of this structure has been determined as High C (from EIS). It is therefore very likely that this TSF dam will be declared under the Dams Safety Act 2015.

Prior to building this dam, Bowdens Silver Mine will need to supply further information regarding their dam to DSNSW. Information requirement can be found on the organisation's website at <https://www.damsafety.nsw.gov.au/>.

As the consequence of failure of the proposed TSF has been determined as High C (from EIS), the monitoring of the TSF embankment needs to take account of the location of the TSF within an active mine site. It is therefore recommended that:

- Daily inspections of the embankment take place;
- The Company shall ensure that peak particle velocities generated as a result of mining will not exceed 50 mm/s at any point on the TSF Dam embankment. A minimum requirement is that monitoring of blast vibration occurs at the closest point to the blast on the embankment crest;
- If peak particle velocities exceed 50mm/s, then an inspection of the dam by a suitable dams engineer is required;
- The Company shall develop a program of seepage monitoring, and report any occurrence of changes in seepage from the dam which are considered significant;
- The Company shall implement a program of subsidence monitoring, and report any occurrence of unexplained movement of the dam embankment;

- The Company shall develop a program of piezometer monitoring of geotechnical drillholes within the dam embankment and its surrounds and report on any unexplained movement of groundwater levels.

If you have any queries in this regard please contact Bill Ziegler on 9842 8077 or bill.ziegler@damsafety.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Ziegler', written in a cursive style.

Bill Ziegler
Manager Mining Impacts
Dams Safety NSW