

Objection to Bowdens Silver Mines Amended Application SSD 5765

I am the owner of Wyuna in Lue. Wyuna is identified by Bowdens as property number 87 in their application. I have owned this beautiful and unspoiled farm for 24 years. Should the proposed mine go ahead, amongst other things I now understand I will be looking directly at the realigned 500KW transmission lines from most parts of my property. This would spoil my view and impact my visual quality of life. It would also be off-putting to the many guests that come to Wyuna to enjoy the countryside. We have invested 24 years of our time, money and passion into our farm. Wyuna is irreplaceable and all the things that make it irreplaceable would only be destroyed should this mining application be approved. My plans to retire to Wyuna would be lost! I worry about my fears and aspirations of what the future holds. Bowden's have caused this.

The exact location of the realignment has changed from the original proposal which adds to my concern as Bowden's management through this entire process has been substandard. Why was this realignment not included in the original application? I run a large business and am familiar with the workings of a successful business. I find Bowdens either (and possibly both) loose or deliberate in their planning and/or exploitation of the application process. Either way it concerns me that they may well be inept in managing and running a mining business if the administration planning is so unpredictable, incomplete, unprofessional and incompetent.

Based on the information given to date, I attach a copy of an image kindly produced by a neighbour to illustrate how the realigned power lines will look from my farm. This image is deeply disturbing as it shows an ugly picture of just how large these pylons will appear from my property. It does not show the removal of vegetation under the power lines, which would only serve to make the view even more distressing. I welcome Bowdens to arrange a time with me to enter my property and to correct this image if it is not accurate.

I am also deeply concerned about the planned removal of 12.6 ha of beautiful unspoiled native vegetation from under the footprint of the power lines, which I understand would cause loss of already threatened Box Gums and would further damage the ecological landscape. Not only would I be looking at these enormous, ugly transmission line towers, but also the scarred and treeless cleared landscape underneath.

My observation through Bowdens whole process shows the lack of assessment and uncertainty regarding the realigned transmission lines, and how many other aspects of the application have suffered a similar lack of attention. I also find it shocking the lack of assessment of the extremely long 58.5 km water pipeline. It concerns me that the entire project is a disaster waiting to happen, both economically and environmentally. Bowden's exhibit to me an inability to follow the application process correctly, and I can only imagine how badly they would run the mine. I imagine the environmental disaster should the

Bowden's mine go into administration, or become un-financial in any way, part way through the construction of the open mine and the tailings dam with no financial resources to 'clean up the mess', the beauty of the area would be lost forever. The health risk and economic damage to the community would be unfettered and ongoing.

The new transmission lines would be moved around half a kilometre closer to our property and would pollute and spoil our currently unspoilt view. At any time of the day, I enjoy looking at the ridgeline view of the hills adjacent to our beautiful farm across our pristine creek, this would be sullied forever. I understand that a failure by a proponent mining company to protect the visual amenity of landowners was in part the reason for the failure of the proposed coal mine at Rocky Hill. Please refer to the judgement in Gloucester Resources Limited v Minister for Planning [2019] NSWLEC 7. In essence there is very little between this case and what is being planned for Lue. The Rocky Hill application was refused because its benefits were outweighed by its "disbenefits" of visual, air quality and social impacts on existing uses in the vicinity of the mine, as well as the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions by the proposed mine.

I'm sure Bowdens will try to discredit my concerns and objections as they have done in the past, however these concerns are valid. I have owned Wyuna for 24 years and I feel qualified to comment on how disastrous this will be for myself, my family and our community.

I attach an image of the proposed view from our house paddock driveway of the planned transmission lines. It would totally spoil and upset the view we love today.

I ask that the project application and amendments be refused.

Regards,

Phil Cameron

