

J & J McCarthy

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We would like to make two objections to the Environmental Impact Statement for the Bowdens Mine at Lue.

Our first objection relates to the electrical supply options which, though not a part of the main document, are discussed in Appendix 9.

It is our understanding the Breakfast Creek option, as discussed in Appendix 9, is the preferred option for supplying power to the mine site. This matter only came to our attention in May 2021 when we were approached by a representative from Tactix on behalf of Bowdens Silver.

We find it disingenuous of Bowdens to write a personal letter dated 14 May 2021 to update us on the assessment process and current exploration activities but fail to mention they wanted to run a new power line through our property.

The construction of a 66kv transmission power line through our property will have a significant and profound effect on our lives and livelihood.

There are a number of reasons for our objection to Bowdens constructing a power line through our property.

1. Restriction of land use. The power line and its 30 metre easement will significantly restrict our farming practices. The placement of poles will hinder ploughing and haymaking. They will also limit our use of paddocks that are currently under irrigation. The upgrading of our current system to a pivot system would be impossible.
2. Visual impact. We built our home in order to enjoy the outstanding outlook, an uninterrupted 180 degree view over the valley towards Tong Bong. The construction of 23 metre poles and wires running east to west across the property would be unsightly and would create an unwelcome impact on our enjoyment of our home and surroundings.
3. Security and biosecurity. The security of our property as well as our personal security would be altered because people would have access to our land. We have spent many years ensuring our property is free of problematic weeds so biosecurity is a priority for us. It would be extremely difficult to monitor those entering our land.

4. Future options. The construction of a power line will impede future subdivision.
5. Financial impact. This proposal now significantly impacts our property management due to uncertainty in the future. Questions now arise over improvements and future development of our land.

We have lived on our farm for 38 years and it is our major asset. The placement of a power line through the middle of it would have a significant impact on our property's value, its use and our enjoyment of land we have owned for many years.

Our second objection relates to Bowdens seeking to move the high transmission 500kV power line closer to Lue village.

The positioning of the new power line with its 70 metre easement will remove Box gum woodland. This disturbance will be detrimental to the critically endangered ecological community. Fragmentation of the area will affect biodiversity and affect the habitats of the Greater Broad Nosed Bat and the threatened Barking Owl. It will also affect the local Koala population, something that worries us greatly.

The lack of consultation with the local Indigenous people is also of serious concern. Many culturally sensitive sites exist in the area and giving them a low value compared to the economic value in the EIS shows a lack of respect and understanding. Our advice is that the landscape, including that of the area that will be impacted by the power line, is an integral part the local stories of Indigenous ancestors and the loss of sites and landscapes will have a detrimental effect for future generations.

Yours sincerely

John and Jeannette McCarthy