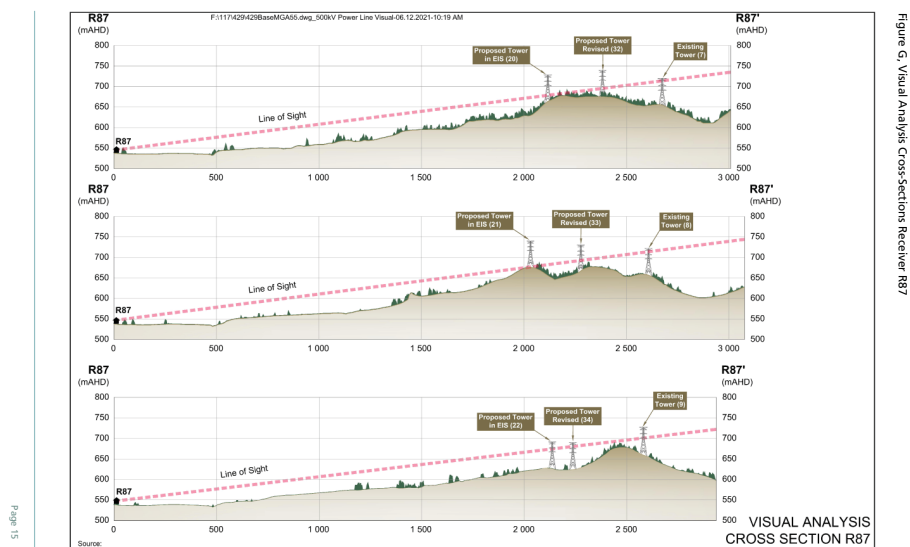


OBJECTION TO BOWDENS SILVER AMENDED APPLICATION SSD **5765**

MARGARET CAMERON



Simulated view of realigned power lines (in red) from Wyuna, 16 August 2021



I am the owner of the rural holding noted as R87 in the Bowdens EIS, and otherwise known as WYUNA at Bara-Lue Road Lue. I have owned and loved this property since 1997.

I object to the Bowdens development application SSD5765 in its entirety and seek that it be refused for all of the reasons given in my earlier submissions.

Further I object to the most recent Water Pipeline Amendment.

Water Pipeline Amendment - Appendix 8 - Response to Visual Impact Submission

In August 2021 I made an objection to the realignment of the 500KW power lines based on an image of how I thought the power lines might look from my property (see image above at top). I requested that Bowdens correct this image if it were inaccurate. The simulation in the above image labelled *Figure G, Visual Analysis Cross-Sections Receiver R87¹* and found in the Water pipeline amendment confirmed my fears that my view will be significantly damaged. The attempt to mitigate this damage by again moving the powerlines as suggested in this latest amendment is ineffectual and quite ridiculous. As their own visual analysis shows, there is very little if no discernible change to my view from one amendment to the other.

We will go from seeing nothing to seeing something large and ugly, the composition made up of huge pylons and cleared land beneath them. I fail to see how this assessment could dismiss the issue as easily as it does, it is simply incorrect to do so.

The community has not been properly consulted in regards to the realignment of the power lines, and Bowdens have consistently either downplayed and or dismissed the true impact of their project. A plan to mitigate potential damage should not be accepted as a solution where the damage can be avoided entirely.

In the Rocky Hill case the 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 the green house gas emissions by the proposed mine.

¹ Water Pipeline Amendment - Appendix 8 - Response to Visual Impact Submission

Please refer to the judgement in *Gloucester Resources Limited v Minister for Planning* [2019] NSWLEC 7. His Honour concluded at paragraph 222, that:

“The visual impacts of the Project, both by themselves and by reason of the consequential adverse effects on existing, approved and likely future uses of land in the vicinity, and the social impacts that the visual impacts will likely cause, justify refusal of consent for the Project.”

In essence there is very little difference between this case and the plans that Bowdens have for Lue.

WATER PIPELINE AMENDMENT

Wyuna is a small and productive property and is comprised mostly of creek flats. We have around one kilometre of frontage to the Lawson Creek and have a natural spring on the property that is fed by groundwater.

Water has always been such a major component, and sometimes problem for Bowdens in regards to this project. For years now it seems we have been misled about the source of the water. We were made to understand that the pipeline was required as onsite water was not possible/feasible, but now the extraordinary has occurred and the water has become available.

The below map (on Page 5) was sent to us on 19 November 2019. The map accompanied a list of responses to questions that we had put forward to Bowdens and was designed to show us exactly where the tailings dam would sit. We found this map disturbing as it highlighted the section of the Lawsons Creek that borders our property and notates it as ‘Predicted drawdown beneath Lawsons Creek’. Water is an essential and sometimes rare resource for us and not only waters our livestock but the groundwater allows us to grow crops without irrigation. Without water from the Lawsons Creek our property would not sustain any livestock or any type of farming enterprise.

In May 2020 we questioned Bowdens as to what was meant by the ‘predicted drawdown beneath Lawsons Creek’ and it’s worth noting that at this time the water pipeline was embedded in their plans. They answered as follows”

‘The groundwater assessment has predicted drawdown of the groundwater table that would impact groundwater beneath Lawsons Creek in the vicinity of your property. This is predicted to reduce the contribution of groundwater to the

creek in that location (referred to as a base flow reduction). The existing flows in Lawsons Creek as such that this impact would not generally be noticeable, except in extremely dry situations where the Lawsons Creek is reduced to pools. Where ground is contributing to the depth of these pools a decrease to the depth of these pools would be noticeable. This would be a rare occurrence given the more regular flows in the creek. We also acknowledge that the recent dry conditions have reduced flows in Lawsons Creek, however these are not considered normal conditions and hopefully we soon see an end to the drought conditions experienced over the last few years'

In previous correspondence Bowdens confirmed that they had never measured flows in the Lawsons Creek and yet they speculate about drought conditions and what is 'normal' in the Lawsons Creek.

'Data on flow rates within Lawson Creek have been calculated based upon the Australian Water Balance Model as there are no measured stream flows in the Lawsons Creek Catchment'.

We fear the seriousness of this situation for our future water supply. This warning to us about what to expect in regards to reduced flows in the Lawson Creek was based on the pipeline being part of the project. This situation must only become worse without a pipeline. I would ask that Bowdens confirm exactly what we should now expect from the future of our section of the Lawson Creek.

The inconsistencies in the information that Bowdens provide is confusing and frustrating. Each time a question is asked or a subject raised, the commentary and facts given are different.

CONCLUSION

I ask that the project in its entirety be refused for for all the reasons put forward in my previous submission, as well as the reasons mentioned above.

