

Director, Resource Assessments  
Planning and Assessment  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

6<sup>TH</sup> July, 2020

Susannah and Simon Lang  
Carlaminda  
1686 Carlaminda Road  
PO Box 201  
Cooma NSW 2630

**Applicant – Bowdens Silver Pty Limited**  
**Application Number – SSD-5765**  
**Application- Bowdens Silver Mine**

## **WE OBJECT to the Bowdens Silver Mine proposal.**

I declare I have not made a reportable political donation in the previous 2 years.

Signature.....

Signature.....

Dear Sir/Madam,

My husband and I live and work in the Monaro region approximately 16kilometres from Cooma. We also own and operate a business that is predominantly involved in the restoration of degraded riparian zones of river systems in NSW, Victoria and the ACT. We are familiar with and have worked on drainage lines in the Mudgee/Lue area.

We have had active involvement in emergency prevention of tailings dam failure in our local area at the Cowra Creek goldmine and further afield at Captains Flat, we have seen the toxic effects of tailings dams failure from similar ore deposits on the Molonglo River, the major river bisecting Canberra, ACT.

These observations have reconfirmed our view that the construction of tailings dams in NSW generally operate in a deficient regulatory environment in the context of the longer term.

We strongly object to this proposal for several reasons but one of our main objections is the WATER useage for this proposed silver mine.

- There is insufficient water in the proposed mine's locale and as such it would use the majority of the natural flow from the Lawson Creek catchment. There will also be an appreciable drop in the ground water levels as an open cut pit may continue to draw on ground water for many years after its inception. Both these actions will adversely affect the water table in the immediate catchment and have long term negative consequences. Relying on water from elsewhere is difficult and the water budgets for this mine in this



location do not appear to be realistic. A full and comprehensive hydrological survey and analysis should be undertaken to determine the full impact of this proposed open cut mine.

- The construction of a tailings dam so close to Lawson Creek is a potential environmental hazard. Tailings dams have a HIGH FAILURE RATE in the mining industry. They appear to be outside the reasonable control of government agencies resulting in no appropriate oversight both in their construction and once the ore body has been exhausted.

Our other main objection is the mine's PROXIMITY TO THE VILLAGE AND PRIMARY SCHOOL of Lue.

- This proposed open cut mine will be ONLY 2 KILOMETRES from Lue township and primary school. This proposed mine will operate 24 HOURS A DAY ONLY 2 KILOMETRES from Lue township and primary school with almost constant exposure to offsite contamination such as dust containing toxic pollutants. Lue will be exposed to vastly increased noise levels from blasting and trucks as well as levels of lead dust that are particularly harmful to children. This would be unacceptable to the residents of any township.

We firmly believe that no approval for the proposed Bowden Silver mine should be given.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Signature.....

Susannah Lang

Signature.....

Simon Lang

6<sup>th</sup> July, 2020