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To Whom it may concern,

My name is Andrew Fuller and I work in agribusiness managing large rural assets for various clients. One of the properties under my management is based on the Cudgegong River near Goolma, downstream from Mudgee and Lawson Creek. This large holding has an irrigation license on the Cudgegong and is highly dependent on the irrigation water for the purposes of livestock production. Additionally, I also have friends who operate a grazing enterprise on the Lawson Creek. These friends have made me aware of the EIS on exhibition at present.

I object to the EIS as it has failed to address water pollution to surface and ground water from the tailings storage facility TSF at Bowdens.

1. 100% of tailings is Potentially Acid Forming PAF
2. Acid Mine Drainage escaping to the surrounding environment during mine operation and after mine closure represents a significant risk to the project
3. The tailings will contact 17-20% of the lead, zinc and silver mined due to losses during ore processing. Other metals present include arsenic, antimony, fluorine and manganese.
4. 30 million tonnes of tailings produced over the life of the mine is also PAF and contain about 43700 tonnes of chemical waste products.
5. AMD will be generated indefinitely from the TSF.
6. The containment design of the TSF has never been demonstrated on this scale
7. There is no second containment in the design.
8. The construction of the TSF is highly contentious.
9. Most tailings dams do leak and some have failed. Most recently in 2016, Newcrest 's Cadia Gold Mine at Orange had a breach in their TSF wall but fortunately a second TSF caught the overflow so no waste escaped the site. Bowdens does not propose a second tailings dam.
10. The TSF sits on a geological fault line.
11. The TSF is designed to leak – 1.58 megalitres per day forever into Lawson Creek (heavy metals, chemical all highly acidic). This will move downstream to the Cudgegong at Mudgee. This can represent a significant proportion of inflows into the Cudgegong at times

The risk to Lawson Creek and Cudgegong River of heavy metal pollution from AMD is totally unacceptable and must not be allowed to happen. I wish to register my strong objection to the EIS and thank you for the opportunity to do so.

Regards,

Andrew Fuller

