

Mrs Lisa Tubnor
"Highland Park"
3057 Rylstone Road
LUE NSW 2850

BOWDENS SILVER MINE PROJECT – SSD-5765

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to thank you very much for this opportunity to submit my personal views and concerns regarding the application for this project

I have lived at our home in the Lue area since 1996. I grew up in Mudgee, where I completed my schooling and met my husband, Carl Tubnor and we are celebrating our 26th year of marriage. We have 2 adult children; Corey Tubnor 24 years and Mitchell Tubnor 21 years.

Both of our families have been established in the local area and surrounding communities for many years and in this time, we have developed strong and respected relationships in both our social and working communities. I am currently working for TAFE NSW as a teacher and assessor of Animal Studies and Veterinary Nursing and my previous experience includes 15+ years of management in one of the Veterinary Hospitals in Mudgee.

My Husband and youngest son have both established careers in coal mining with the nearby Ulan Coal operations. I would like to point out that I am not in any way opposed to the idea of mining, however the location of mines I feel should be a pertinent factor in whether they can become established or not.

I have recently reviewed the EIS document and as a result feel that the information that has been provided to us previously by Bowden's Silver representatives does not in any way reflect what will be happening with this project. I feel that we have been lied to and coerced into believing that the project will have little to no effect on us at all. We are now in the position where we have a few weeks to put in a submission in the hope to protect and maintain our lifestyle and existence and feel frustrated that we apparently need to fight to save our family home of 25 years. I am sure we wouldn't have permission to build a service station on our property and find it disappointing to think that this company may be able to proceed with a project that will have very negative impacts on so many people and their families. We have already seen an effect with the community dividing in differing opinions, most being misinformed from mine representatives. There is a reduced feeling of community spirit in the area and as a direct result some find that attending the local hotel is no longer an enjoyable experience for them from the anxiety of the mine issue. Our kids grew up in this community and attended the local school, we have been heavily involved in the rural fire brigade and many other community events since moving to the area and it is this sense of belonging that has already been affected just by the possibility of this project going ahead. The Lue Hotel was once the hub of all our community activity.

One of the major lies that has been made very apparent to me is that this is indeed more a Lead and Zinc mine than an actual Silver mine, so why is it called 'Bowden's Silver'. That seems like a façade along with most of the facts and figures in the EIS are expressed in 'approximate' terms. I have trouble believing that these figures will not blow out and become far greater as happens frequently with other projects of this nature.

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Some of their objectives in the EIS are that they would preserve the existing character of Lue, as I have mentioned above this has already been affected in a negative way. They also state they will ensure the health of the surrounding community and I am very concerned that they will have no control over this factor as the mere thought and develop that has already taken place for this mine has caused me and my family a lot of stress already. I am sad to think what may happen if it goes ahead and we are dealing with the other issues that will cause both physical and psychological effects such as;

- Noise and vibration
- Increased traffic
- Increased and possible toxic dust
- Water security
- Property values
- Visual impacts

They also state in their EIS that Lue is further away from this development than some other mines and they include Cadia mine as an example. This mine is located 8klms from the township of Blayney and it is a gold mine, not a lead mine and our home is under 2klms from this proposed boundary.

Our property value has already decreased with the possibility of the mine going ahead and due to our location, it is extremely unlikely that we could sell it now at all. This has caused us significant emotional stress as we have spent our working life trying to secure a family home that we can retire in and call our own. The financial losses to us regarding this will be substantial.

Our property is located on the corner of Lue and Pyangle Road and is now the main access to staff attending the mine. The EIS states that during the development months 1-6, this road will remain the main access meaning that we will have a significant increase in traffic including light and heavy vehicles on an un-sealed and narrow road. We have been witness to several accidents at this intersection since residing here and 1 vehicle in fact came through our side fence and into our back yard, stopping only metres from one of our kids when they were much younger. We already have issues with dust and noise from this road without increased traffic. This road has a 100km/hr speed limit and I am very concerned there will be accidents near our house. Currently we can hear vehicles coming from Powells Road intersection as they travel towards our house on Pyangle Road, the haul road for the mine trucks as located on the proposed map is closer to us than this intersection so we will no doubt be hearing trucks working at the mine 24/7.

We have already been given a written document from Bowden's Silver offering Voluntary Mitigation and Voluntary Land Acquisition so this tells me that they are very aware that our livelihood and lifestyle as we currently know it will be directly and severely affected by this project.

Before we moved to the Lue area we spoke to some local people regarding the creek and water holes that are running through our property. The water hole that is in Lawson creek was renowned for never drying up and it has indeed been true to its reputation. The lowest we have seen it was earlier this year after the effects of a 1 in 100-year drought, however there was still water in it. I know this will not be the case if the mine develops an open pit and starts drawing water from this system, the EIS states there will be a predicted base flow reduction to Lawson and Hawkins Creek. I am also very

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concerned about the toxins that will leach into the soil and water from the waste, cyanide processing and the project production. Will this water remain as a viable source for us? Will it poison our vegetable patch? Will it be safe for our animals and stock to drink?

The proposed tailings dam is also a concern, there have been several reports of these failing at other mining sites in the Central West NSW area for example; Cadia. If this does it will leak acid mine drainage into our water table and have a negative affect on the entire water course.

This mine should never be allowed to proceed due to its proximity to a significant rural community and the water supply of both local and downstream villages and localities. It appears to me that unless you are based in the town of Mudgee, being our larger centre, that you and your property are fair game to any development regardless of the devastating emotional and physical impacts that it may have. This has already happened to local villages such as Ulan and Wollar and I have no doubt that Lue will end up the same. The only consolation I could envision would be for the mine to purchase our property for a reasonable monetary figure to compensate for this massive destruction to our life and well-being that we have spent years of hard work creating.

Once again, I thank you for this opportunity to submit my concerns and views regarding this project and appreciate your time in reviewing this.