

18 February 2023

Independent Planning Commission  
Suite 15.02  
135 King Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

### **Proposed Development - Bowdens Silver/Lead Mine**

I am a long-term resident and health professional in Mudgee.

I OBJECT to this proposed development going ahead.

The key issues that are important to me are:

- Environment (water resources biodiversity and climate change);
- Traffic and transport; and
- Hazards (contamination, health and safety).

Other key issues that are important to me include:

- Lead poisoning and health (no safe level of lead for children);
- Acid mine drainage will damage the river system from the Lawson creek to the Cudgegong River through Mudgee and into Burrendong dam;
- Major threat to water security (planned to take over 1000 megalitres of water each year);
- Rehabilitation of the site will be minimal (the pit and 117-hectare tailings dam will be permanent and across a fault line);
- The dam will hold poisonous materials like cyanide, arsenic and lead and will remain there forever; and
- Tourism and local farmland will be negatively affected.

From the hearings I understand that the mine may continue longer than initially proposed and include mining for other metals including gold. I also heard that extending the mine to include underground mining was also expected in the long term and that the tailings dam may need to be increased in size. The details of this were minimal.

Again, I object to this mine.

Yours sincerely,

  
Belinda Drysdale

  
Mudgee 2850