

From: Primo Cottage <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, 19 February 2023 7:35 PM

To: IPCN Enquiries Mailbox <ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: re: Submission to Independent Planning Commission re Bowdens Silver Mine - Lue NSW

To whom it may concern:

Submission to Commissioners – Lue Silver Mine Public Hearing.

Before I begin my submission I beg the indulgence of the commissioners. Imagine this if you will. You are sitting on your front verandah, listening to the birds calling out, the water in the Lawson Creek tinkling below you. If you are lucky, with a glass of Mudgee wine in your hand relaxing after a hard day's work. Looking out over the beautiful Lue valley at your livestock

grazing on lush green paddocks. Move forward & imagine this. Endless noise, explosions, constant drilling noise, water unfit to drink for either humans or livestock. Dust contaminated with lead swirling about you. Looking at the back wall of the mine in front of your house. Continual noise from trucks driving up & down the road. This scenario was given in a submission on Tuesday by the man who owns a property very close to the proposed mine site whose family have lived there for 70 + years. An analogy for this may be; you have owned & lived in a house on the edge of Sydney Harbour for generations. With a beautiful view of the Harbour & all its activities. Out of the blue along comes a developer who can see a lot of money to be made out of erecting a multi storey block of flats right in front of your house. When it is finished your view is gone, your sunlight is blocked & the lifestyle you once lived & loved gone forever.

My late father Henry White was born on "Havilah" which is approximately 14klm from Mudgee on the Lue Rd. My relatives still live here. Havilah has a lot of history. The homestead was built by Nicholas Paget Bayly in 1875. It is 'A' listed by the National Trust of Australia. It was bought by my forebear H.C. White in 1880 from Nicholas Paget Bayley. As a consequence I have been travelling this road since I was a child. I only mentioned not long ago how the traffic has increased hugely & what a dangerous road it has now become. A lot of people travel daily to Mudgee from Rylstone/Kandos for work & delivery trucks also use the road on a regular basis. It will only become worse if trucks from the mines are allowed to use it on a regular basis. This road has lately become very popular with tourists as they cycle to & from Lue to Mudgee.

I would like to object to the granting of the mine license being allowed to go ahead on the following points.

The obliteration of the Lue village. It is going to be far too close to Lue public school, which I presume will have to close for safety reasons. We have already seen this happen to the villages of Ulan & Wollar & the village of Bylong dying a slow death. Please be assured I am not against mining as such. It is just the placement of this proposed mine. I fully realize the benefits the 3 coal mines at Ulan bring to Mudgee township, the jobs they bring to the district & the money they inject into the district. They are built on inferior farming land & are a long way from towns.

The tourism angle. As I am sure you have been made aware over the past week, Mudgee has a huge tourist intake & since being voted the most popular tourist town two years in a row this has increased significantly. It has a lot of history & is the oldest town west of the Blue Mountains. A lot of the buildings in Mudgee are listed on the National Trust registry. There are now in excess of 590 Air BnB's in the Mudgee district alone. As mentioned by Lucy White in her submission, tourism now brings in the vicinity of \$170 million to the Mudgee district yearly. An amount not to be scoffed at I am sure you would agree.

The air quality that will be affected if the mine goes ahead. Dr. Peter Roberts (local Mudgee G.P) & Dr. David Parry- Okeden (a Mudgee vet for many years) both spoke to this subject & delivered some startling & alarming facts. One of these delivered by Dr. Parry-Okeden was the

fact that bees given too much exposure to lead grow smaller heads & are as a consequence are unable to find their way back to their hives.

The state of the Mudgee /Lue road. As mentioned before this road is not built to carry heavy semi-trailers. It is very windy & narrow in many places & is an accident waiting to happen.

Chemical content that livestock in the proximity will ingest. Harry White from Havelah North spoke on this subject. It is a very sobering thought that the lead taken from the mine to make solar panels & batteries amongst other things, are seen to be more important than breeding livestock to feed the nation.

I gather the owner Anthony McLure M.D. will not be recommending his workers stay/live in the village of Kandos after the disparaging remarks he made about Kandos in his submission? The pressure on rental accommodation & houses available to buy is well known in Mudgee. Doctors, school teachers, nurses, miners all are having trouble finding somewhere to live & some just give up & go & work somewhere else due to the very expensive rentals & house prices. Therefore I ask myself where are these people who will be employed at the mine proposing to live, as we were assured by Anthony McClure they will not be FIFO's.

In closing I would ask the commissioners to go back & read again the submissions made by **Dr. David Parry-Okeden (Mudgee vet) & Tom Combes (president of the Lue Action Group)**. Both had some very valid points to make.

Also I would ask the Commissioners to give serious thought to the number of rural properties that will be impacted & the number of families who through no fault of their own will have to move away due to the chemicals in the air & water & the impossible living conditions. To say nothing of their mental health issues. People who have lived here for generations & have helped to develop this corner of rural New South Wales into what it is today.

Thank you for your time taken in reading this.

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