My name is Tony Miskle – I am the owner of Miskle Earthmoving Pty Ltd.

I am objecting to the proposal of the Bowdens Silver Mine for many reasons.

My wife and I have owned our family property for 35years, and our home is 10kms from the Bowdens proposed mine site. We have never been consulted by any representative of Bowdens Silver Mine.

We share our farm with our children and grandchildren , we cannot express our health concerns enough from being exposed of lead poisoning and the health impacts it will have on our grandchildren.

Our daughter runs a successful farm stay accommodation along with my wife running her livestock business. Stock contamination will result in not being able to sell to our buyers, this will be a roll-on affect felt right across the agriculture business.

Our property was severely impacted by the recent flood events experiencing over 200mils of rain, leaving the Breakfast Pyangle Rd completely washed away.

Miskle Earthmoving is our family owned business, our business commenced in 1962 by my father Bill Miskle, our civil construction business first started with the RYLSTONE Shire Council in 1962.

Our Earthmoving and Transport company along with our valued team employees have been one of the longest running businesses in civil construction with MWRC and still in operation today.

Sixty years in civil and transport industry, Our company is also employed by the Rural Fire Brigade and the National Parks. I have worked for a local coal mine operating heavy plant in civil construction for Thirty Years, So let me say I’m not against mining I’m just not supporting this “ Silver “ Mine proposal as the dangers it poses far out-weighs the significant health risk to our community and to the environment and to our generations to come. Our community has been very mislead by Bowdens Silver Mine with the name of the Mine being a major misconstrue as to the actual type of mine that will be in operation.

Miskle Earthmoving has been in the transport industry for Sixty Years in Heavy Haulage. Road Safety is something that has been completely ignored in any reports from Bowdens and the Department of Planning.

Bowdens Siver Mine Has FAILED to provide an effective TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT PLANT

With sixty years of experience in the Transport Industry I find this extremely concerning for the local Emergency Service, Police MWRC and all road users.

NO TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT PLAN

NO plan in the report of HIGH RISK TRAFFIC

NO plan in their report of a HAZMAT on the Lue to Mudgee Road

What is Bowdens Emergency plan, How will it be Managed and who will be Managing it?

The community was never informed about 120 light vehicle and 8-16 over mass heavy haulage for the first 6 months.

NO Transport Management Plan for a Truck roll over carrying toxic slurry that could pose acute risk to human life and to the environment as well as the Lawson Creek.

The Lue Rd will become a HIGH RISK for all traffic.

The Lue Rd to Mudgee has three concrete bridges that were designed for the passage of smaller vehicles.

All three concrete bridges have concrete pillars which are a common for location for vehicle accidents.

The three UNPASSABLE for two passing trucks concrete bridges brings a driving challenge to all heavy haulage. The most common truck accidents are head on collision and roll overs,

The Lue to Mudgee road follows the nature layout of the land with several blind curves, our country road presents a HIGH RISK caused from blind curves as there is no visibility for motorists.

I fell its my duty of care to my employees, and a Safety Concern issue for emergency service providers, the general public, Mid Western Council and especially the IPC knowing the decision of the mind is in your hands.

There has been no assessment made on high-risk traffic, just that Bowdens will transport material from the mine by Truck.

I cannot express my concerns enough of the potential danger on the Lue Rd to Mudgee, it’s a matter of WHEN NOT IF of major accidents occurring with volumes of dangerous heavy haulage sharing this road for the next 23 years.

I urge the IPC to view these conditions as my opinion is not based on a ‘’modelling’’ or ‘’average’’ data, but practical lived experience of driving heavy haulage vehicles on this road for some 40+ years.

Bowden’s Mine should never be approved to have 16 or more heavy haulage trucks transporting dangerous and toxic material on this small country road for the next 23 years.

Sharing my personal and professional opinion with the IPC could very well tarnish our highly regarded reputation within our community but I Thank you for taking the time and reading my submission as I feel this “Lead’’ mine will cause a negative impact.

We can clearly see from the wide variety of experts whom have come forward to present their case that Bowdens reports are severely flawed and misguiding our community with the concept of short term gain.

My major concern of no Transport Management Plan clearly shows they do not have the community safety at the forefront of their interests – who will be held accountable?

Regards

Tony Miskle

Miskle Earthmoving