18th February, 2023

Independent Planning Commission,

Suite 15.02, 135 King Street,

Sydney. 2000

Proposed Development – Bowdens Silver Mine

I object strongly to this proposed development going ahead. The reasons, so clearly revealed in the Public Hearing at Mudgee this week, are obvious:

The mine is essentially a lead and zinc mine, silver being only a very small proportion of what is proposed to be mined. To call it a 'silver mine' is cynical in the extreme.

It will be only two kms from Lue School and the children will be subjected to lead contained in dust from the mine.

Acid mine drainage will damage the river system.

The contaminated overflow will go into the Lawson Creek which frequently floods – the heavy rain this spring resulted in the Glen Willow Sports Complex in Mudgee being covered in water from an overflowing Lawson Creek.

There is inadequate water for operations from the mine to control the lead-laden dust from spreading for long distances. This water is essential to the district in many and cannot be shared with a mine.

There will be very little rehabilitation of the site.

The environment will be adversely effected.

Tourism in the area which is extremely important to the economy of the region will be severely disrupted.

Traffic through Mudgee will be horrendous – big W trucks are not suited to the town.

It is my hope that you will NOT recommend to the NSW Government that the mine go ahead.

Yours faithfully

Veronica Burns