

Submission
No 2

**INQUIRY INTO CURRENT AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF
GOLD, SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC MINING ON HUMAN
HEALTH, LAND, AIR AND WATER QUALITY IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 9 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

To the Parliamentary Committee

Re: Parliamentary Inquiry into the Impacts of Metals Mining on Human Health and the Environment

The ABC 730 Report that exposed some of the impacts that heavy metals from Newcrest's Cadia gold mine is having on people's health and the environment.

The report states levels of lead up to ten times higher than NSW Health recommendations have been found in resident's drinking water near the Cadia mine, while disturbingly high levels of heavy metals such as nickel and selenium have been found in people's blood.

It is shameful and negligent to find out it was only when residents undertook blood tests and it hit the news that the Environmental Protection Authority finally acted - only to have Newcrest escape with a paltry \$15,000 fine and a slap on the wrist.

That is why there is grave concern for the recently greenlit Bowdens lead and silver project near Mudgee and McPhillamys gold project near Bathurst.

While we are yet know to what extent, it is understand such mines could threaten the wellbeing of people and the environment if they go ahead, much like the Cadia mine.

It's no wonder communities who are facing similar projects in their own backyards are fighting back.

Enough is enough - The Parliamentary must ensure that communities and the environment are protected from current and future heavy metal mines.

Have we not destroyed more than enough of our environment and jeopardised the health of the communities and wildlife thanks to past governments?

I urge Parliament to stop this mine for the sake of everyone, wildlife and environment.