

**Submission
No 46**

**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: Ms Judith Brown
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My name is Judith Brown I live in the seven Kilometer radius of the proposed Bowdens Silver Lead mine at Lue, I have lived here for fifty eight years. I don't plan on commenting on all aspects today.

- (a) My family lives in Lue, they depend on their own bore and rainwater tanks as do the rest of the residents as there isn't any Council water or sewerage in the village. They all experience very poor flows or none at all from their bores as that is what the local area is like they are within the two Kilometer range from the mine site. Bowdens say they will have enough water on site, but they won't as locals know the reality of bore flows and the fact that dams don't hold. We must not forget the droughts we experience regularly.
- (b) Bowdens proposal does not account for dust-carrying lead particles that will leave the site contaminating our air rainwater and soils. Those lead particles will ruin all our industries like our organic Olives grapes meat etc not counting our numerous B and B in the area, and of course human health which is paramount.
- (c) Kingsgate the previous owner gave up because they didn't have enough water and the mining lease was previously owned by BHP and if they didn't do anything with it why do Bowdens a startup company with no past experience think they can. They will take all the water they can and leave Lawsons Creek dry and all the people who depend on it all the way to Mudgee without water. The tailings dam wall at Cadia gold mine collapsed in 2018 after a 2.7 earthquake. They did have a second wall in case that should happen Bowdens tailings wall is going to be built on a fault line and they don't have a second wall. I personally felt the Newcastle earthquake here. Bowdens think it is acceptable that they leak 1.6 megalitres of toxic leakage daily (including cyanide and arsenic) into Lawsons creek the Cudgegong and Gulgong ,s drinking water.
- (d) If they start this project, then find out they haven't enough water the damage will already be done as the clearing of 148 ha of Box gum woodland identified under the EPBC act will be gone along with the Koala habitat the regent honeyeater and the swift parrot.
- (e) The only safe place for lead is to leave it in the ground undisturbed otherwise the land and environment is poisoned for not 10 years not 100 years but forever the government took the lead out of paint and petrol in 2002 because it harmed our health and hasn't opened a lead mine since, after all it's only 2% silver the rest Lead and zinc.