

**Submission
No 96**

**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: Mr Sam Hamilton

Date Received: 4 September 2023

I wish to make a submission to the inquiry into gold,silver,lead and zinc mining in NSW.

I am a third generation sheep and cattle farmer in the Rylstone/Lue area where my family has continually farmed for over 100 years.

Our operation employs 2 people full time employees and also a number significant contract and casual employees.

While I realise the need for the minerals covered in this inquiry and the importance of mining to the NSW economy I believe this to be taking priority over human and environmental health and social well-being in government legislation and planning.

My specific concern is around the Bowdens Lead and Silver project proposed for the Lue area. While I realise this project has gained the approval of the "so called" Independent Planning Commission I believe this commission and the Bowdens project failed to to aquatically address many critical areas. These areas will significantly impact local health;water availability and down stream water quality; air pollution (specifically lead dust); cultural heritage; native endangered species and their habitat; and the social impact such as development would have on local employment services and accommodation. It also falls short of addressing the impact this will have on the local tourism, farming and lifestyle community.

In fact the main argument I am aware of from those pro this development is more employment. I find this a curious argument as virtually every employable person in the area has work and in fact almost all industries and services have considerable job vacancies which they are unable to fill.

I urge those involved in this enquiry to consider the potential adverse and irreparable impacts this and other similar developments are likely to have on the local and wider community and weigh this against the prosperity of distant shareholders, company executives and government bottom lines.

I consider there is only one conclusion possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission