

Submission
No 150

**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: 5 September 2023

Partially
Confidential

I live in the area that will be violated by Bowdens Toxic Lead Mine.

I know the evidence of the devastating affects Bowdens lead mine will create has been presented hundreds of times. I wont waste both our times referring to it again.

My Ancestors were killed and run off this Country, under government recommendations 200 years ago. In 2023 shamefully, the methods have changed and theres much more profit to be made by the abusers.

There are no safe levels of lead. That should have been the end of it, if greed wasn't the root of all evil. History has repeated shown is that tailings dams fail. And they have kill hundreds when it happens. Placing one in a water catchment area for a huge area of NSW is nothing short of wicked.

The World Health Organisation International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 2023 is focussed on ending childhood lead poisoning.

In 2023 the NSW Govt recommended thousands of our children to be exposed to unsafe levels of lead. What a split screen meme that is! The Govt have recommended increase stillbirths and miscarriages for our family's, reduced quality of life for all residents, destruction of Indigenous artefacts, koala habitats, water and air quality, loss of thousands of jobs, collapse of industry, increased violent crimes, closure of playgrounds, and so much more.

Lead poisoning has been referred to as the Silent Epidemic. It is one of the most undiagnosed conditions affecting people. There are few noticeable symptoms in the early stages.

Australia's recommendations of not testing blood lead levels until there are noticeable symptoms and a definitive cause plays a huge part in the publics ignorance on lead poisoning. For example the US tests 90 people out of 2000 for lead levels. In Australia we test less than 1 in 2000. With such a long queue for waiting for mining approvals its not hard to see why that is.

A look at a timeline of the last three years worth of ABC headlines about the worsening toxicity of Cadia mine is absolutely illustrative of how actions speak louder than words.

The lack of protections to the land and all its flora and fauna, now and going into the future are shockingly lacking. Absolutely zero genuine care or respect has been given by Bowdens Lead Mine, its investors, or the govt who recommended and approved this act of cruelty and abuse on tens of thousands of people. The same govt who claims to want to hear our VOICE but has continually ignored every one of ours. The govt who quickly dismissed and ignored every voice who said NO to recommending and permitting Bowdens to destroy 25 Indigenous artefacts. What good is using a VOICE if no one is listening?

The Govt and Bowdens may choose to interpret the apathy of some as permission and approval to sacrifice us all, but there are many in our region with integrity who are here now to protect our Country.

How dare any of us be subjected to such acts of abuse. We teach our children the importance of consent while the NSW govt disregard it, show zero respect, and continue to abuse others for their own pleasure.