

**Submission
No 201**

**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**

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Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to make a submission.

Recently I watched a story on ABC 730 which exposed some of the effects that heavy metals from Newcrest's Cadia gold mine is having on people's health and the environment.

Levels of lead up to ten times higher than NSW Health recommendations have been found in resident's drinking water near the mine, while disturbingly high levels of heavy metals have been detected in people's blood. This seems to have been the catalyst for the media becoming involved. The EPA became involved and a small fine was issued. This does not resolve the problem nor mitigate the effects of this disaster.

The proposed Bowdens lead and silver project near Mudgee and McPhillamys gold project near Bathurst are 2 examples of mines that have been recently given the green-light. However we are now clearly aware that they could threaten the wellbeing of people and the environment if they proceed, but what we don't yet know is to what extent.

We must not take any more chances on the health of the environment nor the people affected by these mines.