A Big Year Ahead

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone from the local community who attended our Open Information Day held on site at the end of November. In excess of fifty residents and community members attended the presentation which covered a detailed project update, information on current activities and developments and plans for this year. Everyone had the opportunity to ask questions and topics raised included environmental factors, proposed mine site and size and considerations in place to address community concerns.

Work on both the Feasibility Study and the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) continues to advance. We recently received the updated Secretary’s Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEAR’s) from the Department of Planning & Environment which outlines assessment requirements which must be addressed in the EIS as part of our development application. We aim to have both the Feasibility Study and EIS ready for lodgement in the second half of 2017.

The new year will also see a continuation of our exploration activities to further define our resources and there will be a third drill rig on site from next month.

To ensure you are kept up to date with discussions that occur in the Community Consultative Committee meetings, you can access the minutes via our website.

As always, I welcome community involvement and look forward to future opportunities to meet neighbours and residents. If you have any queries, we have an open door policy so please call or get in touch by email or through our website.

Anthony McClure
Director
SEAR’s Update

In late December 2016, Bowdens received an updated list of SEAR’s requirements. These were necessary as the existing requirements were outdated and been based on an application by the previous owners who had planned a significantly larger scale operation.

The EIS will contain detailed assessments of potential environmental and other impacts and will describe measures that the company will implement to mitigate those impacts, including but not limited to:

**LAND**
- Assess the likely impacts on soils, likely agricultural and landform impacts including long term geotechnical stability of any new landforms on site.

**AIR QUALITY**
- Likely impacts of the development in line with the Environment Protection Authority requirements and any greenhouse gas considerations.

**HUMAN HEALTH**
- A human health risk assessment addressing how the development’s environmental impacts in relation to air quality (including heavy metals) and noise may impact on the local community as well as monitoring and management measures to reduce risk to human health.

**WATER**
- Assess likely impacts on quantity and quality of the region’s surface and groundwater resources.
- Any impacts on aquifers, watercourses, water-related infrastructure and other water users.

**NOISE & BLASTING**
- Likely operational noise including construction and road impacts.
- Assess any blasting impacts of the development.

**BIODIVERSITY**
- Assessment and strategy to offset any residual impacts of the development.

**HERITAGE**
- An assessment of the likely Aboriginal and historic heritage (cultural & archaeological) impacts, having regard to the Office of Environment & Heritage requirements.

**TRANSPORT**
- Likely transport impacts including capacity, condition, safety and efficiency of local and state road networks.

**VISUAL**
- Impacts on private landowners and key vantage points in the public domain, with particular attention paid to new landforms and minimising light impacts.

**HAZARDS**
- Any likely risks to public safety including bushfire risks and the handling and use of any dangerous goods.

**SOCIAL & ECONOMIC**
- Assessments of likely social and economic impacts of the development including the significance of the resource, economic benefit to the state and region and demand and provision of local infrastructure and services.

The Bowdens Silver EIS is currently scheduled for completion during the second half of 2017.
Upcoming Events & Community Partnerships

Last week, Bowdens was proud to partner with Mid-Western Regional Council to sponsor the much anticipated Waratahs vs Brumbies rugby match at Glen Willow Stadium. The event was a huge success and the high temperature did little to deter the crowd. Waratah players said they were impressed with the world class turf and facilities and said they were overwhelmed at the warm reception from locals that they received throughout their visit.

The annual Rylstone-Kandos Show will be held on the 24th & 25th February. This always popular agricultural show is an important event and we are very pleased to be the major sponsor.

We are also pleased to be able to support the Mudgee Show which is on during the 3rd and 4th March at the Mudgee Showground.

Closer to home, the Lue Hotel Darts Competition received a $1,000 donation at the end of last year to help with inter-town travel and competition costs. Bowdens Silver is very pleased to actively participate in small community social activities such as this.

On the education front, Bowdens Silver is currently working with a PhD candidate and her professor from UNSW. The pair will be visiting the site on a regular basis as they further their geological studies of such a significant silver resource. Their research will undoubtedly uncover more information about our unique mineralised system.

www.bowdenssilver.com.au
Recent months have seen a range of activities happening at Bowdens Silver in regards to bushfire planning and mitigation measures. In consultation with and advice from Lue/Havilah RFS, activities have focussed on training staff members in the use of fire fighting equipment, appropriate daily work activities to minimise fire risk as well as equipment and site maintenance. Maps of our property, assets, access tracks and water sources have also been provided to the local Lue/Havilah brigade to help in any future fire fighting activities.

During the recent bushfires at Wellington/Wuuluman and Moolarben two of our staff members attended as part of the local brigade. We’d like to thank all local volunteers for their fire fighting efforts.

Meet The Team

Sally Mayberry

What is your role?
Senior Environmental Officer

What did you do prior to working at Bowdens Silver?
I’d been working in Brisbane in the Oil and Gas industry as an environmental advisor, mainly identifying problems and coming up with better environmental solutions. I missed my family in Mudgee so took the opportunity to shift career direction and move back home,

Where do you live?
Mudgee. My fiancé lives in Brisbane so we share our spare time with lots of travel. I spend working days in Mudgee and any other spare time out on our family farm at Moolarben.

What do you enjoy about working at Bowdens Silver?
Bowdens provided me with the opportunity to be in on something from the very beginning. Setting benchmarks for the quality of what and how we do things was a big draw card for me. I enjoy working somewhere that actually walks the walk and is keen to do things the right way.

What do you do in your free time?
I spend most of my time traveling between Mudgee and Brisbane. My time in Mudgee is mostly spent hanging out with my family. Otherwise I like to sew, I’m learning to play tennis and spend a lot of time looking & cleaning up after my four chooks and Pedro the rex rabbit.

Cody Hulme

What is your role?
Field Assistant - helping the geologists with their sampling and also environmental team work such as sediment fencing and site preparation.

What did you do prior to working at Bowdens Silver?
I was a Rural machinery shed building in Mudgee and also some lawn mowing.

Where do you live?
I’ve lived in Lue for about 13 years. I went to Lue Public School and then to Mudgee High.

What do you enjoy about working at Bowdens Silver?
I enjoy the people I work with and the fact that it’s close to home.

What do you do in your free time?
I like to ride motorbikes when I can, go pig hunting and catch up with mates.

Blake Hjorth

What is your role?
Community Liaison Officer

What did you do prior to working at Bowdens Silver?
I previously worked in the insurance and financial services industry in a range of communications and customer related roles.

Where do you live?
I live in Mudgee and have been there for nearly 3 years.

What do you enjoy about working at Bowdens Silver?
I really enjoy the mix of people I get to interact with both on and off site and the fact that no two days are ever the same. The variety of different things I have been exposed to here has been great.

What do you do in your free time?
Most of my free time is spent catching up with friends and family. I also like to hit the golf course when I can and enjoy the odd camping trip.