

Questions on Notice & Outstanding Actions Register

Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee

As per Section 5 of the Community Consultative Committee Guidelines, "The proponent must respond to any questions asked or advice given by the committee about the proponent's environmental performance or community relations. These responses must be given to members within 28 days of a committee meeting, unless the meeting's minutes specify otherwise."

Item Number	Meeting	Date	Question	CCC Member	Responsibility	Status	Response
1	Meeting 1	12-Dec-17	Question re: the groundwater consultant and design of the project, Seeking clarification around the frequency of the storm event that the water storage facility/tailing dam will be designed to withstand (1 in 10, 1 in 50, or 1 in 100 year storm).	Tom Combes	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Bowdens Silver requires clarification as to the specific intent of this question. Does the question relate to: (a) the positioning of the dam (ie embankment and crest) above the water level of a particular flood event (ie no inflow of floodwater or damage to the structure); or (b) the operational freeboard, which is the volume of the space retained between the spillway and the tailings profile to accommodate rainfall/runoff inflows without releasing to the environment (ie design storm allowance); or (c) the size of the spillway, (ie to safely pass any flow during rainfall events greater than the design storm allowance)? Dam design is strictly controlled and must meet criteria as set out by the NSW Dam Safety Committees which in the case of tailings storage facilities (TSF), relies on the Australian National Council on Large Dams design guidance. The design criteria are dictated by the "Consequence Category" of the TSF. Further detail regarding the Consequence category of the Bowdens Silver TSF can be provided when Bowdens Silver's TSF consultant (ATC Williams) returns from leave. During extreme weather events, operations usually shut down for safety reasons, during which time there is no tailings deposition. Furthermore, the design storm allowance of the TSF MUST be maintained at all times and if it is not then there are serious consequences for dam owners, operators and the responsible engineers.
2	Meeting 1	12-Dec-17	Question re: whether the groundwater model will be a "Class 3 Model" under national modelling guidelines.	Tom Combes	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Bowdens Silver's groundwater model is a Class 2 model confidence level classification under the Australian Groundwater Modelling Guidelines, suitable for impact assessment. The model has been successfully calibrated using the observed behaviour of groundwater in the monitoring network over time. Bowdens Silver's groundwater consultant (Jacobs) advises that Class 3 models are invariably aquifer resource models developed by regulatory agencies to determine the sustainable allocation of resources year on year.
3	Meeting 1	12-Dec-17	Question re: previously identified Aboriginal sites. On the drive in to the homestead, there are rocks in the paddock to the right - has that been fenced off?	Brad Bliss	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	The paddock containing the Aboriginal heritage sites referred to was fenced off when the sites were initially identified, and remains fenced off. Since the initial fencing, livestock have been excluded from this paddock and the farm plan stipulates that no grazing etc. can be undertaken in this area. This area is recognised by site personnel as a "no go zone" and is only accessed for water monitoring purposes along existing tracks. Refer to Attachment 1.
4	Meeting 1	12-Dec-17	Comment re: proximity of nearby properties, and ensuring the approximately 2-300 people who live within several kilometres of the pit and infrastructure layout are informed.	Mick Boller	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Since the inception of the Bowdens Silver Project a wide range of avenues have been utilised to ensure we have shared information on our project and proposed infrastructure designs with members of the Lue community as well as community members within the wider Mid-Western Region area. These have included face to face meetings, phone and email interactions, newsletters and information sheets, Community Consultative Committee meetings, interviews, website updates, community open days and public presentations. Please refer to the attached map (Attachment 2) showing distances from the proposed pit centre. Please note that infrastructure design and placement is ongoing.
5	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 2 re: how concentrate would be transported from the site, and what percentage of lead is captured in the concentrate.	Bradley Bliss	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	The silver/zinc concentrate and silver/lead concentrate will be placed within sealed sea containers for transportation on flat bed trucks. The latest optimisation shows process recoveries of approximately 80% for silver and 83% for each of zinc and lead. With regards to concentrates and based on the latest optimisation works, the Life of Mine will produce approximately 310,000 dry tonnes of concentrates. Within these concentrates will be over 50 million ounces of silver. approximately 110,000 tonnes of zinc and 80,000 tonnes of lead.
6	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 6 re: Tailings dam and what mitigations are being undertaken to minimise impact to Lawsons Creek and Mudgee.	Tom Combes	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Please refer to independent expert's response provided in the appendix to Meeting 3 Minutes.
7	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 7 re: Reported recent sighting of dust rising from a drilling rig.	Tom Combes	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Information was received on 19/4/18 outlining details of a sighting of dust rising from a drill rig on 22/7/17 near the proposed TSF area. Records confirm that drilling occurred on this date in this area. The drill rig operating at the time had the standard and necessary dust mitigation systems in place. Two BSPL staff were working with the drilling contractors on that date and drill logs suggest nothing out of the ordinary occurred that day.
8	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 8 re: presenting 3D representation of the site.	Sally Dryburgh	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Once the final mine site layout is determined, Bowdens Silver will aim to display this in a visual format that allows interested stakeholders to view the project in a 3D format. At present, this is planned to be in a 3D digital format.
9	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 11 re: What wind and dust monitoring is undertaken to the East of the site and down Powells Road.	Mick Boller	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Please refer to independent expert's response provided in the appendix to Meeting 3 Minutes.
10	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 13 re: Distance between the mine and local residents, and availability of a map of the final mine layout.	Mick Boller	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	A map was provided to all CCC members on 16/1/18 outlining distances from the centre of the proposed pit. The EIS will include an updated map of the land ownership and residences surrounding the Mine Site and relocated Maloneys Road together with a detailed plan showing land ownership and residences within Lue Village. A table will be provided listing the distances between the various residences and the closest area of disturbance and the closest edge of the open cut pit, waste rock emplacement, processing plant and tailings storage facility. This information will be used in the Noise and Air Quality Assessments. The map of the final mine layout will be included in the EIS, however, a draft mine layout will be circulated to the specialist consultant team with the description of the Project for their use in assessing the environmental impacts of the draft mine layout. The final mine layout will reflect the results of the various environmental assessments undertaken by the specialist consultant team.
11	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 16 re: Impact of lead on young people and relation to smelting process.	James Armitage	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Please refer to independent expert's response provided in the appendix to Meeting 3 Minutes.

12	Meeting 2	14-Feb-18	Question 21 re: water that will be held on site, and impact on Lawsons Creek.	John Lydiard	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	<p>Water required for the Project to support processing operations and the requirements for dust suppression would be met from sources that are authorised in accordance with the provisions (e.g. water access licences) set out in the Water Management Act 2000 (WM Act) and supporting regulations such as the Water Management (General) Regulation (2011) (WM Reg) or the applicable Water Sharing Plan (WSP). In summary, the water management strategy for the Project would be as follows:</p> <p>WATER SUPPLY</p> <p>As a landholder, BSPL is entitled under the harvestable rights provisions of the WM Act, to capture and collect a volume of surface water runoff. This water may be used for any purpose (e.g. processing or dust suppression). Additional water for operations would include runoff captured and collected from potentially mine affected catchments (e.g. processing plant, tailings storage facility and waste rock emplacement). As this water could potentially contain contaminants, it would be used in processing operations to optimise efficient use of all water resources within the Mine Site. Under Section 60I of the WM Act, a water access licence is required for the volume of groundwater intercepted by the excavation of the open cut pit. BSPL would secure water access licenses under the relevant WSPs and collect this groundwater (via in pit sumps or advanced dewatering bores) for use in processing operations. Any additional water for use in mining operations either from groundwater or surface water sources would be need to be sourced under the provisions set out in the WM Act.</p> <p>STORMWATER RUNOFF</p> <p>The capture, collection and management of sediment-laden runoff generated on disturbed catchments (e.g. areas cleared of vegetation or soil stockpiles) would also occur, however, once the suspended material has had sufficient time to settle and the water is of suitable quality, this water would be released into the receiving environment. Stormwater runoff from catchments undisturbed by mining and related activities would be diverted away from disturbed catchments and allowed to discharge into the receiving environment. This strategy would be implemented to assist in maintaining, to the greatest extent practicable, the existing discharge regime in the receiving environment and to lower the volumes of water requiring management on the Mine Site, thus lowering the risk of discharging potentially contaminated water to the environment.</p>
13	Meeting 3	10-Apr-18	Question 9: Where the VSW13 bore is located?	Mick Boller	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	The reference for this bore is actually BSW13. It is located to the east of BSPL owned land along Powells Road.
14	Meeting 3	10-Apr-18	Question 12: How many private bores are being monitored?	Mick Boller	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	There are currently 21 private bores being tested.
15	Meeting 4	14-Aug-18	Question 7: What is the water requirement of the site? What will be needed over and above the 2 ML per day figure?	Tom Combes	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	<p>The water requirements of the various components of the operation are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing plant operations require approximately 1716 ML per annum: 930 ML of this will be returned from the Tailings Storage Facility and 790 ML will be made up from raw water, mine dewatering and storm water. • Dust suppression: water requirements will be varving dependent upon climate and weather. Approximately 110 ML per annum will be required.
16	Meeting 4	14-Aug-18	Question 11. Will the water pipeline positioned along road easements come under the Commonwealth EPBC Act?	Darryl Watkins	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Yes.