

BSPCCC Meeting 6 - Minutes

Meeting:	Bowdens Silver Project CCC - Meeting 6
Date:	Thursday, 27 June 2019
Location:	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee
Time:	5.00 – 7.30 PM
Independent Chair:	Darryl Watkins, KJA (DW)
Attendees:	Bradley Bliss J.P., Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation (BB) Tom Combes, Community Member (TC) John Lydiard, Community Member (JL) Sally Dryburgh, Community Member (SD) Sonia Christie, Community Member (SC) Anthony (Tony) McClure, Silver Mines Ltd (TM) Blake Hjorth, Bowdens Silver (BH) Jane Munro, Bowdens Silver (JM) Mick Boller, Lue Action Group (MB) Anna Sessink, KJA (AS)
Apologies:	Cr John O'Neill, Mid-Western Regional Council (JO) Keith Perrett, Silver Mines Ltd (KP)

Actions

Action	Responsible
Darryl Watkins to invite the Department to the next meeting for a discussion	DW
Tony McClure to consider a neutral venue for the next community open day	TM

Minutes

Minutes	Action
<p>Welcome and Apologies (DW)</p> <p>The Chair welcomed members.</p> <p>The Chair noted apologies from John O'Neill and Keith Perrett. No apologies were received from James Armitage.</p> <p>BB gave Welcome to Country.</p>	<p>➤ No actions</p>
<p>Code of Conduct (DW)</p> <p>The Chair reaffirmed the Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>➤ No actions</p>
<p>Meeting 5 - Action Items (DW)</p> <p>The Action Items from Meeting 5 were reviewed by the Chair.</p> <p>Most action items were completed, and otherwise would be addressed during this meeting. The Questions on Notice Register has been updated.</p> <p>Given that he had missed the previous meeting, MB enquired about any answers to the dust sighting incident that was discussed previously.</p> <p>JM reported that the company had checked all available records, and there was no evidence of any excess dust issue at the drill site on the relevant date.</p> <p>TC stated that he believed the dust cloud incident was ignored during the last meeting, and instead, the focus was on the use of the rifle sight.</p> <p>The Chair advised that the issue was not disregarded, and concluded there was not enough evidence to confirm the sighting. This matter is now closed.</p>	
<p>Community Open Day Report (TM) – 20 mins</p> <p>The Chair asked which CCC members had attended the Community Open Day on 15 June 2019.</p> <p>SD confirmed her attendance that day. SD's experience was very positive, and she was impressed by the accessibility and quality of information.</p> <p>TC advised that he had not attended the Community Open Day, and had felt discouraged by Bowdens not welcoming Lue Action Group members into the space wearing Lue Action Group t-shirts.</p> <p>TM stated that everyone was welcome and invited to the Community Open Day. However, protests were to be held outside the Bowdens property.</p> <p>The Chair expressed his disappointment with any committee members not attending that day, regardless of their opposing views. It was a good opportunity to have any questions answered. The Chair then sought clarity around Bowdens' policy regarding the entry requirements for the day.</p> <p>TC said to believe the Lue Action Group did not cause any disruption that day.</p> <p>TM reported that at a previous Community Open Day there were members of the Lue Action Group that were particularly aggressive and intimidated some consultants and local residents. TM advised that Bowdens wanted to avoid intimidation of their consultants. TM also noted that police had attended the protest location and was not called by Bowdens Silver.</p>	

<p>TC advised the Lue Action Group's intention is to create awareness about concerns. Members have concerns, and debate should be allowed.</p> <p>TM commented that the Community Open Day was a great success with a substantial turnout by local community members. There were approximately 100 guests, excluding Bowdens Silver staff and consultants. TM noted that only one member of the CCC showed up and that no instructions were given to exclude anyone from the event.</p> <p>TC asked TM if the t-shirts were considered disruptive, which TM confirmed.</p> <p>JM stated that no-one was rejected during the Community Open Day, and in fact, a known Lue Action Group member entered, sat through the presentation and spent time with the consultants.</p> <p>The Chair remarked that, as a committee member, TC could have phoned TM that day to seek clarification on the issue.</p> <p>TC responded that he was wearing two hats that day. TC advised that the Lue Action Group should have been welcomed regardless of the t-shirts they were wearing.</p> <p>JM advised that anyone not attending had missed out on receiving the best possible information to date. JM explained that for anyone not attending that day, comprehensive information is now available on the website. Regarding the Action Group t-shirt, JM replied it would bring disruption to an otherwise calm and informative session.</p> <p>MB suggested that the Bowdens site was not a neutral venue to hold the event. MB did not attend the event as he was away that day, but would not have attended at the Bowdens venue regardless.</p> <p>BB advised that he was interstate and thus unable to attend that day. BB did share event information with the aboriginal community and asked if any aboriginal community members attended that day.</p> <p>TM and JM advised that they had not identified any members of the aboriginal community that day.</p> <p>TM gave the presentation on the Community Open Day. A copy of TM's presentation is available in Appendix A.</p> <p>TC and JL asked TM if any answers to the questions presented would be provided.</p> <p>TM advised that these questions were almost entirely answered during the Community Open Day. These are logged and part of the Q&A in the EIS. TM then completed his presentation.</p> <p>SC asked MB for the number of neighbours he had lost in the past 10 years. MB advised that he had lost several, and a range of names were recorded: The Greens; Ron & Anne Shanley; Ray & Elizabeth Stevenson; Ken Watson & Virginia King; Peter & Mrs Woods; Phil & Elaine Stekhoven.</p> <p>SC advised that considering MB's observation, Lue may lose its sense of community if the lead mine goes ahead. SC noted that other local communities were deceived by promises of a booming community because of mines in the past. TM objected to SC calling the mine a lead mine. SC then called it a mineral mine and asked for further clarification around the terminology.</p> <p>TM advised that the mine is not a lead mine, and is categorised as a silver mine with by-product credits. The distinction between coal and mineral mines is typically scale.</p>	
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<p>SC said to believe the extracted content is most relevant, including its by-products.</p> <p>JL asked if the silver mine classification is based on dollar value, which TM confirmed.</p> <p>BB came back to the community aspect and advised that the mining villages of Wollar, Bylong and Ulan had experienced a decline. BB suggested that reality would be different from the information on the slides presented by TM.</p> <p>TM reported that the company has no intention of buying the Lue village.</p> <p>SC asked if Bowdens would be able to provide locals comfort by offering to buy them out for a certain price if they wished. TM took note of SC's point and thanked her for the input.</p> <p>TM then advised CCC members that in contrast with the past, regulations nowadays do not allow for such decline as experienced by the previously mentioned mining villages.</p> <p>TC noted that, to his understanding, Bowdens had communicated incorrect and insufficient communication towards the local community.</p> <p>BH disputed the claim and advised that truthful information was provided in relation to the lead figures during the Community Open Day.</p> <p>TC noted that the turnout that day was insufficient to convey information to the whole community.</p> <p>The Chair brought to TC's attention his letter that was published in the Mudgee Guardian on 26 June. The Chair believes that the letter is phrased unfairly and does not reflect information as discussed during CCC meetings.</p> <p>TC noted that he represents the community and aims to provide them with information that is neglected by Bowdens. TC then asked the Chair what parts of the letter to the Mudgee Guardian were inappropriate.</p> <p>The Chair answered that the letter did not reflect the facts raised in this CCC forum.</p> <p>TC advised that he believes he publicised the facts. TC noted Bowdens would be processing with cyanide. TC also declared that had been reading about cyanide recently and that if used correctly, there were no major issues.</p> <p>JM advised that all details can be found in the EIS and summary document.</p> <p>TC noted that people are reluctant to read the summary document, and said to doubt that people would read the full EIS document.</p> <p>SC raised the topic of biodiversity offset and thanked JM for fulfilling all the requirements. SC shared her worries about the policy failing to result in like-for-like offsetting and instead would result in a nett loss of biodiversity. SC noted that even though Bowden acts according to regulations, it is still not a good outcome for the environment.</p> <p>The committee members agreed to raise this concern with the Department. The Chair committed to inviting the Department to the next meeting for a discussion.</p> <p>JL questioned how one offsets by buying land that was already existing. Would it not be best to buy open grassland and diversify that to offset?</p> <p>JM responded that planting is an oversimplification. SC noted that native habitat cannot be easily replicated.</p> <p>JM concluded that Bowdens needs to abide by government policy, whether considered positive or negative.</p>	<p>Action (DW)</p>
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<p>BB mentioned he had worked on environmental offset in the past, where several properties with ecological communities were bought and enhanced. BB noted that nobody monitors the situation.</p>	
<p>EIS Lodgement Update (JM)</p> <p>JM advised that the SEARs were initially issued late 2016, and updated in 2017. Another revision was received on 21 June 2019 and published on the Bowden Silver website. Bowdens has yet to digest the document fully.</p> <p>JM provided details on the current status of reports. JM noted that Bowdens is in the process of reviewing all specialist consultant reports. All reports are completed, apart from the economic, health and social impact reports. Bowdens expect to submit the EIS for adequacy review by early August, from which they expect no issues. Full submission of the EIS to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is planned a month or two from August.</p> <p>BB noted that, from his understanding, only part of the survey for the pipeline was completed, and the aboriginal community has not received draft specialist reports for comments. BB mentioned a minimum of 28 days is required to review drafts, and 5 days to review a final version. BB said to expect this may affect Bowdens' timeline.</p> <p>JM advised that these same points have been raised previously by BB and Bowdens Silver has responded to them. The points have been considered by Bowdens Silver's specialist consultant Matt Cupper.</p> <p>BB noted that the aboriginal communities and parties would object if no draft specialist reports will be released for comment.</p> <p>JM advised that this issue could not be resolved at this meeting. JM noted that Bowdens is very close to finalising the draft reports with the consultants.</p> <p>BB enquired about the remaining tracts of land to be surveyed.</p> <p>JM explained that for the EIS submission, at least 80% of the length of the pipeline need to be surveyed (which is completed).</p> <p>The Chair asked if the updated SEARs contained any surprises. JM answered that nothing unexpected was found so far. SC questioned if the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment referrals had slowed the process down. JM responded that it did to some extent.</p> <p>TC asked on what legal basis Bowdens could force through the construction of the pipeline without landowners' consent. JM explained that no such proposal exists. The surveys conducted to date have been for the purpose of the environmental impact assessment only.</p> <p>TC mentioned that he has a Statutory Declaration of a landowner whose land comprises 27km of the proposed pipeline and claims not to approve the pipeline. TC then mentioned that other landowners would refuse access too.</p> <p>JM explained that significant sections of the proposed pipeline route are located on Council road reserves. Council has been consulted and is generally in agreement with the proposal, subject to the requirements of the updated SEARs</p> <p>TC asked for clarification as he has heard landowners stating disapproval. Jane Munro explained the current map is indicative only and Bowdens will work around landowners who do not permit access.</p> <p>BB stated that a 100% survey rate is normally required in this region. BB said to believe the aboriginal community will raise issues regarding freehold land along the route that may contain heritage.</p>	

<p>JM advised that if the pipeline is to be constructed on any land which has not yet been surveyed, then surveys will be conducted prior to construction.</p> <p>TC asked what chance of success is anticipated for the pipeline to go ahead. JM answered that it is a process that will continue.</p> <p>TM advised that with the surface water and groundwater assessments, the company decided not to consider taking water from local surface water sources including creeks, streams and rivers. The company also decided not to consider water sourced from local dams or processed water from Mudgee. In addition, the company decided that it would not source process water from bores. TM advised that the State views the mine not relying on local water as a positive outcome.</p> <p>BB asked if any water supply agreements have been agreed with mines in Moolarben and Ulan. Tony McClure answered this is not disclosed but that dialogue is in process with both mines.</p> <p>SC asked if JM had followed up on a question raised in the previous meeting, what the exact source of water is for the proposed pipeline. JM took the Question on Notice.</p> <p>JL enquired where water would be sourced from in case the pipeline would not suffice.</p> <p>JM noted that it would be a serious issue. And although no water has been guaranteed, JM advised, the question is irrelevant as a sufficient quantity of water is available.</p> <p>TM advised that, theoretically, they would use bore water. However, Bowdens has elected not to go down that path. JL expressed worries about the water having to be sourced from somewhere else if the pipeline fails to supply enough water.</p> <p>TM disputed JL's argument by advising that the project is reliant on pipeline water.</p> <p>BB expressed reservations about Blue Springs Road farms that were affected by coalmine boreholes. BB advised that less water is available than one might believe. TM responded that he could not speak for other mines.</p> <p>JL advised to be extremely cautious as his property is located downstream of the creek and his property is sensitive to effects on creek levels.</p> <p>TM answered individual situations would be investigated and compensated for. Bowdens has obligations towards any neighbours experiencing material effects.</p> <p>JL voiced concerns about solutions being post the problem.</p> <p>SC asked what would happen after the mining has ceased? JM answered that impacts will be managed until conditions are back to natural levels. JM stated environmental conditions of consent would be revealed if the Development Application gets approved.</p> <p>MB asked what evidence would be required to indicate whether an impact on local residents is considered or not. JM took this Question on Notice.</p> <p>TC added up the number of litres surface water to be extracted for the mine and rounded the number to 800ML. TC asked if TM found these numbers acceptable.</p> <p>TM reaffirmed that TC missed his opportunity to speak with the water consultant on the Community Open Day, where detailed modelling work provided comprehensive answers on the topic.</p> <p>TC asked for understanding after 30 years of ongoing mining propositions. JL supported TC by reaffirming his concerns about irreversible damage.</p>	<p>QoN (JM)</p> <p>QoN (JM)</p>
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TM advised that any negative effects will be dealt with as part of the process and that Bowdens has access to quality water. JL said he would not accept Bowdens' saline water.

The Chair proposed for Bowdens to make available time with consultants to answer the committee's questions. TM objected as significant investments were made in the community open day to answer any questions.

TM suggested answering questions at the next CCC meeting. Any questions from CCC members can be raised via the Chair or via the company's online portal.

The Chair noted to TC that during their first discussion, TC said he was ambivalent to the project. The Chair asked TC if this compromised his role.

TC advised that as much as he tries to be impartial, he is pretty much opposed to the project now.

TC said that he gathers information from CCC meetings to try answer questions honestly. TC advised that the further the project progresses, the more the community finds its ground. TC argued that he is allowed to express his own opinion.

The Chair asked the CCC if they still find the CCC workable.

TC advised that he would leave the committee if needed, but asked for the Chair's opinion on what part of the letter he wrote to the Mudgee Guardian he believed was wrong.

JL referred to Mudgee's biggest activist who is part of several committees and claimed that committee members do not have to be completely neutral.

The Chair advised that TC can stay on the committee if the committee agrees. TC said to believe he can play a valuable role in representing the community. TC advised that the opposing views create a balance in the committee.

The Chair advised that this may be the case. However, there is also a fine line on spreading misinformation across the community.

TM read TC's letter to the Mudgee Guardian (Appendix B). TM advised that TC's role is the dissemination of information provided within the CCC. The letter would be misleading, factually incorrect and scaremongering. TM advised that it is up to the Chair to decide if the information communicated was fact or opinion.

TC disputed by claiming that lead will be mined. TM replied that TC had lied about it in the press.

SD advised that she had learned during the community open day that a certain amount of lead exists in the environment nonetheless. The extra due to the mine is relatively very small.

TC said to rely on different experts, such as Barry Noller,

JM responded that the data that the company's consultants have based their assessments on for the EIS is the best data that has ever been available on the project, and they have used the very detailed operational plans which also have never before been available. JM stated that Barry Noller wrote his report some 5 years ago, having none of the company's monitoring data and based on a proposed operation very different from the Bowdens Silver proposal.

TM added that Barry Noller, although an expert in his field, has not had any contact with the company or specialist consultants, has not been to the site and has not reviewed the current data."

The Chair proposed to move on to the next agenda item.

<p>EPBC Act Referral (DW)</p> <p>The Chair referred to the EPBC Act Referral and found it was lodged without being shared within the CCC before. The Chair said to be disappointed and asked if Bowdens wanted to respond to that.</p> <p>JM advised that Bowdens had not consciously thought about whether or not to notify the CCC in advance of the referral. It had never been raised as being of interest to the CCC.</p> <p>The Chair noted that any federal or state referral that requires public submission should be shared with the CCC.</p>	
<p>CCC Membership Update (DW)</p> <p>The Chair advised that JA has not attended for 3 consecutive meetings. The Chair initiated contact but has received no response. The CCC guidelines recommend that the Chair may request the replacement of any member who fails to attend 3 consecutive CCC meetings. In light of the Chair having not received any responses from JA, it will be appropriate that he is removed from the CCC.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the position is open for applications, and 3 applications have been received so far from the recent advertisement. The applicants will be assessed under the Department's criteria, and a new committee member will be introduced at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>Q&A and Discussion (ALL)</p> <p>Any Q&As were addressed throughout the meeting.</p>	
<p>Communication with Broader Community (ALL)</p> <p>The Chair asked if the committee believes any improvements can be made to communication with the broader community.</p> <p>MB suggested that the next Community Open event should be held in a neutral venue. BB and JL agreed.</p> <p>TM stated that, although appropriate facilities are available at the Bowdens Silver site, they will consider this for the next community open day, which may be about 3 months away.</p>	Action (TM)
<p>Agenda Items for Meeting 7 (DW)</p> <p>The CCC members agreed to meet before the EIS lodgement, on Thursday 19 September 2019. The Department will be invited to the meeting.</p>	
<p>Final Comments (DW)</p> <p>MB asked a range of questions on behalf of several community members. The following questions were asked and taken on notice by JM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are Bowdens' air quality modelling criteria for the mine, and what is the average period (weekly/monthly/annual)? - As there is no safe threshold for Pb and PM2.5, and similarly no safe threshold has ever been established for the other toxic metals – how will Bowdens know they will not exceed the Zero dust deposition as claimed? - Is Bowdens willing to participate in a public medical debate with professional medical consultants in the fields of clinical pharmacology, general medicine/kidney diseases, neurology, and paediatrics? 	QoN (JM)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regarding the tailings dam – will Bowdens be following the international standards set by the International Council on mineral and metals? They make it clear that mining companies should be using dry stacking instead of wet tailings. It is a safer option, but more expensive. - Bowdens states in its brochure that impact assessment outcomes that seepage from the TSF and lined waste rock emplacement would be collected and recycled and reused in processing. How is seepage collected? A low permeability compacted clay liner would limit seepage from TSF, so what does Bowden exactly mean with the limit? On the map, they only identify the non-acid forming rock, not waste rock that is potentially acid-forming. <p>MB asked if it is correct that no compensation will be offered for landowners that live along the pipeline. TM answered that is not entirely correct.</p> <p>TC asked what acoustic treatments are offered to affected residents. TM answered that a range of solutions would be available, including double glazing, roof mechanisms, air conditioning, and elimination of gaps.</p> <p>TC asked what type of measures would be taken outdoors.</p> <p>TM answered that, among other things, there would be barriers to the mine site. Measures would be site-specific. The company’s position is comprehensive and exceeds the requirements.</p>	
<p>Close Meeting</p> <p>The Chair thanked CCC members for their attendance and apologised for the delay. The meeting was closed at 7.30 pm.</p>	

Appendix A

Presentation Slides TM - Community Open Day Report



BOWDENS **SILVER**

Community Consultative Committee

27 June 2019



COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

**The following are comments as
provided by members of the public to
R. W Corkery & Co., Specialty
Consultants and Bowdens Silver staff at
the Bowdens Silver Open Day on
15th June 2019.**

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

General Comments

“It was nice to hear the actual facts about the Project. The Company is trying to be transparent and open about everything, whereas the Lue Action Group is spreading misinformation.”

“There’s a lot of good information here.”

“It was good to be able to talk to the experts.”

“At least the Company is open and transparent about the impacts.”

“We value the many friends we have in the area and don’t want that to change by relocating out of the area.”

“The timing before the EIS is on exhibition; the approvals process; the likely timeframe to a decision.”

“It’s a shame the approvals process is overly complicated and takes so much time to get good projects like yours underway.”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Protest Issues

“We felt intimidated by the mine protestors as we approached the Bowdens site today.”

“The mine protestors made it hard to travel safely along Maloneys Road.”

“I was surprised to see the opponents to the mine restricting access for people wanting to travel to the open day – especially in our small community.”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Water

“Our concerns previously raised have largely been addressed by the water supply pipeline.”

“Can I access water from the water supply pipeline for my stock?”

“I am concerned about the transfer of water from Goulburn River sources to the Mine Site.”

“I am relieved that our bore will be outside of the drawdown area.”

“We are concerned about reduced flows in Lawsons Creek as a result of groundwater flowing into the open cut pit.”

“What diameter will the pipeline be and will it be buried?”

“Where will the fire-fighting points be along the pipeline?”

“How wide will the pipeline corridor be?”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Noise and Vibrations

“We would like to understand how noisy 35dB(A) and 40dB(A) would be.”

“What if the noise predictions are wrong, like they were at Wollar? Have any comparisons been made between noise predictions and actual noise levels?”

“Our residence is located well to the east of the Mine Site, silence is very precious to us. Motor bikes can be heard at times on the weekends.”

“What would be the noise criteria and noise levels from the mine in Lue village during the day and night-time?”

“Will the mine be audible beyond the 25dB(A) noise contour shown on your map?”

“My home is of a solar passive design and therefore not suitable for acoustic treatments. Noise from the mine would remain deafening.”

“I am not unduly concerned being within the 1-2dBA noise impact zone from the Mine Site.”

“What will be the difference between the mine operating noise criteria and that for blasting?”

“How will blast scheduling occur to avoid adverse weather conditions?”

“We are concerned about potential mine related traffic (and noise) through Lue village, but somewhat relieved by the proposed relocated Maloneys Road.”

“What will be the effect of the blasts on our home, outbuildings and concrete tanks.”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Air Quality

“How will blast scheduling occur to avoid adverse weather conditions?”

“What is in the dust?”

“What metals are in the dust?”

“I am concerned regarding drinking water from my rainwater tank.”

“How far will the dust travel from the Mine?”

“What distance have you modelled air quality from the Mine Site?”

Health

“What level of lead would we be exposed to in Lue?”

“How will the lead from the mine enter bodies?”

“How will the exposures to lead in Lue compare to those in Mt Isa?”

“I am pleased to hear that there are no toxicity issues from the mine.”

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Visibility and Lighting

“How have the cross-sections been prepared between the Mine Site and the residences?”

“Will there be sufficient topsoil to put on the final landform to adequately vegetate the areas disturbed and make the Mine Site visually acceptable?”

“We enjoy a clear dark sky – what would change when the mine is operational through a night glow.”

“Will the lighting on the mine affect astronomy activities at Breakfast Creek?”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Operations

“What chemicals are used in the processing route?”

“Will the mine operate 24/7?”

“Where is the processing plant?”

“What is the life of the mine?”

“What chemicals will be in the tailings?”

“Will the roads be asphalt or dirt?”

Project Extensions

“There are significant exploration licence areas.”

“Where else do you intend to explore around Lue?”

“When will you know whether you will develop a mine around Barabolar?”

“Great to hear there could be other discoveries in the region.”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Rehabilitation

“When will the Company sell the land around the mine (outside the Mine Site) and areas that are rehabilitated?”

“Will the Company hold on to the land which is covered by the TSF, WRE and open cut in perpetuity?”

“Will the final lake be suitable for water sports?”

“What are Bowdens Silver’s obligations relating to rehabilitation?”

“Will the Company have to pay a guarantee bond for rehabilitation?”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Employment/Local Business

“Local employment at the mine would mean my son could return from interstate.”

“We are very keen to supply fuel and other consumables to Bowdens Silver now and in the future.”

“When can we apply for a job?”

“Our children are leaving because there are no jobs.”

“How much training will you give to a local farmer?”

“This mine is what I need to make my business viable as it isn’t quite there yet.”

“The mine would help to reverse the current decline in jobs in the local area, especially for those not academically inclined.”

“How many jobs will be created by the mine and what type?”

“Our community needs jobs.”

“Will the Company support local people in traineeships and apprenticeships?”

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Other Comments

“What are the requirements for land acquisition and mitigation?”

“Where will the keeping place be for the Aboriginal artefacts?”

“Do you take into account the use of vegetation for breeding when considering its value for an offset?”

“The 3D model is incredible.”

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COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

At the Open Day of 15th June 2019, Bowdens Silver announced the impending set up of the Community Investment Program.

The Committee to be set up with local membership specifically to decide and implement community projects related to education, heritage, tourism, community events, charities, land management, town beautification, sponsorships, etc.

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CURRENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- **Lue Public School - IT sponsorship, water bore, garden, new bus, educational support.**
- **Kandos High School - educational support, event sponsorship, work experience, transport sponsorship.**
- **Kandos Public School - playground and learning infrastructure sponsorship and offer of educational support.**
- **Rylstone Public School - educational area and storage facility.**
- **University of New South Wales - post graduate programs.**

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CURRENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS

- Mudgee Wombats Rugby
- Rylstone Kandos Show
- Mudgee Show
- Rylstone Street Feast
- Mudgee Reader's Festival
- Gulgong Gold & Mining Festival
- Mudgee Rugby 7's Competition
- Mudgee District Netball Association
- Mudgee Clock Awards
- Defibrillator for Kandos community
- Rotary
- Waratahs Rugby in conjunction with MWRC
- Rylstone Kandos Volunteer Rescue Association

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FUTURE PROGRAMS

Local initiatives will continue and expand, based on the following core areas:

- **Education** - continue and expand upon our strong education policy with support across the range of educational institutions: local public schools, local high schools, TAFE, Universities and other higher education. Development of industry relevant local training and skills. Education and employment pathways, local apprenticeships and traineeships for young locals;
- **Community** - support to improve social facilities and areas of greater benefit for local communities such as: infrastructure enhancements, land use enhancement, charities and improved amenity and environment;
- **Sport** - support sporting organisations promoting team work, health and the wider social function to local communities;
- **Health and Safety** - support for organisations that provide rescue, emergency and health and services and the promotion of safety and wellbeing in the community; and
- **Arts and culture** - support for projects in areas such as indigenous cultural heritage, local history and community arts and cultural programs.

EDUCATION & TRAINING IDEAS

- Scholarships or opportunities
- Educational resource allowances or sponsorship.
- Local training program opportunities.
- Selection criteria and recipients driven by teacher and community members.
- Mentoring opportunities.
- Employment Readiness Programs.
- School excursions & learning opportunities.
- Work experience programs.

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HEALTH & WELLBEING IDEAS

- Youth health programs - mental and physical health programs, social impacts.
- Local health care priorities and programs.
- First aid training in the communities.
- Bowdens Silver emergency facilities available locally.
- Bowdens Silver fire fighting assets available locally with bushfire management planning and volunteering opportunities.
- Water offtake access points along the extent of the Ulan-Bowdens water pipeline for firefighting.
- Support for sporting teams.
- Development of local charity and support programs.
- Volunteering within the community.
- Joint community initiatives with our partners (we partner with over 130 local businesses and local contractors).

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LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES & LAND USE IDEAS

- **Lue Community Hall revitalisation.**
- **Local history - capture, preserve and display.**
- **Local tourism.**
- **Relocation of Lue Waste Transfer Station with MWRC.**
- **A local Lue shop – overwhelmingly popular during SIA interviews.**
- **Sponsorship programs for local activities, events and groups.**
- **Environmental conservation programs (in addition to Company biodiversity offset programs).**
- **VPA (Voluntary Planning Agreement) with MWRC and fund allocation.**

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Appendix B

TC' letter to the Mudgee Guardian, published on 26 June 2019

COMMENT JUNE 26 2019 - 9:41AM

Not all mining is good, some mining is bad...really bad

Tom Combes

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Have your own thoughts? Send your own letter

In a recent media release the Mudgee Chamber of Commerce opposes a new solar farm on the Castlereagh Highway just out of Mudgee. Claiming they don't oppose solar, rather its location and that it will look bad.

In a similar vein, many oppose the Bowden's Silver and Lead Mine at Lue. They don't oppose mining, rather the type of mine, the method of processing, the waste it will produce and its location just 2km from the village of Lue and adjacent to Lawson's Creek that flows directly to Mudgee.

Opinion: 'To the climate change deniers in our community'

If you can't have a solar farm that looks bad, how can you have an open cut lead mine? operating 24/7 just 2 km from a community, contaminating the land and water around it with lead, cyanide and arsenic.

You might not be able to see it from the highway but is that all that matters these days?

Not all mining is good. Some mining is bad...really bad.

Tom Combes

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- Local Stihl Specialists**
 Local specialists, providing all your garden care equipment
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 Providing a safe & friendly environment for Members and Guests
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 One Stop Shop for equipment repair and maintenance services
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McDonald Lawson Pty Ltd - Rylstone



Rylstone Store
 Cattle Sale! Sat
 13th July | 1pm

LOCAL NEWS

- 1 Emma inviting locals to have fun recycling
- 2 Council to install signage encouraging