Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee

2018 Annual Report



Bowdens Silver Community Consultative Committee – 2018 Annual Report

Project:	Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee	
Reporting Period:	December 2017 – December 2018	
Independent Chair:	Darryl Watkins, Executive Director, KJA	
Contact:	Marc Snape, Senior Project Manager, KJA	
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Version	Author	Review	Date	Authorised
1.0	Darryl Watkins	Marc Snape	31 Jan 2019	D. Watte

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Introduction

Bowdens Silver Project

The Bowdens Silver Project (the Project) is the largest, undeveloped silver project in Australia and one of the largest globally, potentially processing two million tonnes of ore over a sixteen year period.

The Project is located in New South Wales, approximately 26 kilometres east of Mudgee in the town of Lue, in the Central Tablelands Region and approximately 260 kilometres from Sydney. The project is currently completing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), with the intent to lodge the EIS with the Department of Planning and Environment in the first half of 2019.

This Report

The 2018 Annual Report, covers four meetings held over a 12 month period from December 2017 to December 2018, held on the following dates:

- Meeting 1, 12 December 2017
- Meeting 2, 14 February 2018 (site visit)
- Meeting 3, 20 April 2018
- Meeting 4, 14 August 2018

Committee Establishment

Following the introduction of new Community Consultative Committee guidelines by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) in 2016, a new Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee (BSPCCC) was established.

Mr Darryl Watkins was appointed as the Independent Chair, and following a nomination period and face-toface interview process, a number of key stakeholders and local community members were appointed as committee members. While some members had been involved with a previous Committee for this project, there were a number of new members.

Committee members included representatives of the proponent (Silver Mines Limited and Bowdens Silver Pty Limited), local residents, a representative of the Lue Action Group, a representative of the Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation, and a representative of the Mid-Western Regional Council.

Committee Governance

The BSPCCC was established and operated in accordance with the Department's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines.¹

Code of Conduct and Pecuniary Interests

All committee members agreed to abide by a Code of Conduct (See Appendix A: Codes of Conduct) and declare pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in the project.

Signed copies of both the Code of Conduct and the Declaration of Interest were collected prior to confirming appointment to the Committee.

BSPCCC Membership

The below table lists Committee members and their representation on the committee.

BSPCCC Member	Representation
Mr Anthony McClure	Silver Mines Limited
Mr Keith Perrett	Silver Mines Limited
Ms Jane Munro	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited
Mr James Armitage	Resident (Mount Marsden)

¹ Guidelines available at <u>https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Assess-and-Regulate/Development-Assessment/Community-Consultative-Committees</u>

Mr Bradley Bliss JP	Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation
Mr Mick Boller	Lue Action Group
Ms Sonia Christie	Resident (Rylstone)
Mr Tom Combes	Resident (Lue)
Ms Sally Dryburgh	Resident (Mudgee)
Mr John Lydiard	Resident (Lue)
Cr John O'Neill	Mid-Western Regional Council
Darryl Watkins	Independent Chair

Table 1: BSPCCC Membership

BSPCCC Meeting Attendance

The below table notes attendance records of Committee members.

BSPCCC Member and Representation	Meeting Attendance
Mr Anthony McClure, Silver Mines Limited	3
Mr Keith Perrett, Silver Mines Limited	3
Ms Jane Munro, Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	3
Mr James Armitage, Resident (Mount Marsden)	3
Mr Bradley Bliss JP, Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation	4
Mr Mick Boller, Lue Action Group	4
Ms Sonia Christie, Resident (Rylstone)	3
Mr Tom Combes, Resident (Lue)	4
Ms Sally Dryburgh, Resident (Mudgee)	4
Mr John Lydiard, Resident (Lue)	4
Cr John O'Neill, Mid-Western Regional Council	2
Darryl Watkins, Independent Chair	4

Table 2: BSPCCC Meeting Attendance



Figure 1: Bowdens Silver Project Location

2018 Committee Activities

Overview

As per the Department's Guidelines, the BSPCCC is specifically established in an advisory capacity, and not as a decision making or regulatory body.

The BSPCCC has met 4 times with meetings held 12 December 2017, 14 February 2018, 10 April 2018, and 14 August 2018.

BSPCCC Meetings

The BSPCCC meetings were held both at the Project site, and at Council offices.

Meeting	Date	Location
Meeting 1	12 December 2017	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee
Meeting 2 (site visit)	14 February 2018	Bowdens Silver, 68 Maloneys Road, Lue
Meeting 3	10 April 2018	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee
Meeting 4	14 August 2018	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee

Table 3: BSPCCC Meeting Schedule

Site visit

A site visit was held at the Project site as part of Meeting 2. Following a site induction and safety briefing, committee members were given a tour of the proposed mine site, inspecting the proposed open pit area and the proposed location of key pieces of infrastructure.

The site tour included an overview of the farm on the property, an overview of the geology of the site, and an overview of environmental testing at one of the Project monitoring stations.

Expert briefings

Following the site visit in Meeting 2, committee members identified a number of areas of the EIS that they believed were of primary interest to the local community.

Taking this feedback on board, the proponent arranged for a number of scientific experts to attend Meeting 3 to brief the committee on the process and answer questions. The presentations covered hydrology, lead and human health, and the overall EIS process. These presentations were followed by a wide ranging discussion amongst committee members.

The proponent also arranged for the EIS project manager to attend Meeting 4 to provide an update and answer further questions from the committee members.

Annual CCC Survey

A survey was sent to committee members, with feedback open from 28 September to 22 October 2018. The focus of the survey was to gather feedback on the effectiveness of the Committee from members.

The survey results largely reflected a positive response to the committee meetings, noting the committee meetings had promoted an improved working relationship between committee members.

The confidential feedback will be taken into consideration by the Independent Chair to inform future committee meetings.



Figure 2: Committee members being briefed during the Bowdens Silver Project site visit.

Meeting Agenda Summaries

Committee meeting agendas were drafted in consultation with committee members, and designed to address topics of interest and focus areas. Some agenda items, such as the Site Visit or Expert Presentations, were arranged by the proponent in response to specific requests from community representatives on the committee.

Meeting	Agenda Summary	
Meeting 1 12 December 2017	 Welcome to Country, welcome and apologies Pecuniary & Other Interests CCC Guidelines, Code of Conduct Chair's Expectations Project Introduction & Update EIS Status CCC Members' requirements Communication with Broader Community Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items for Meeting 2 	
Meeting 2 (site visit) 14 February 2018	 Welcome to Country, welcome and apologies Bowdens Silver Site Tour Welcome & induction Drill core and geology overview Proposed open pit area Proposed infrastructure layout Bingman Hill Site view Return to Bowdens Silver Site Office Pecuniary & Other Interests Minutes and Actions of previous meeting Communication with Broader Community Site visit Q&A Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items for Meeting 3 	
Meeting 3 10 April 2018	 Welcome to Country, welcome and apologies Pecuniary & Other Interests Minutes and Actions of previous meeting Questions on Notice and Questions from committee Expert Presentations Paul Ryall, Hydrologist and Q&A Dr Jackie Wright, Lead and Human Health and Q&A Rob Corkery, R W Corkery & Co. P/L, EIS Project Manager Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items for Meeting 4 Feedback from the Community Committee membership listed on Bowdens Silver website 	
Meeting 4 14 August 2018	 Welcome to Country, welcome and apologies Pecuniary & Other Interests Minutes and Actions of previous meeting Feasibility Study briefing Presentation - Neville Bergin, Feasibility Study Project Manager Q&A and Discussion Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items for Meeting 5 Feedback from the Community 	

Table 4: Meeting Agenda Summaries

2018 Key Issues

A number of key issues were the focus area of the committee meetings throughout 2018, with the majority of committee discussion and expert briefings focusing on these areas.

All minutes and presentations are available on the Bowdens Silver website: <u>https://bowdenssilver.com.au/community-consultative-committee-meeting-minutes/</u>.

Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps/Ongoing
Communication with the broader community	Identified as requiring a strategic focus in inaugural meeting, dedicated Agenda item for discussion and identification of approaches. Community newsletter developed and distributed	Minutes and relevant information all made available on the Bowdens website Committee membership also published on the website
Tailings storage facility and any groundwater impacts	The proponent responded to Questions on Notice on these matters. Technical presentations by EIS Consultants were provided in Meeting 3, focusing on Health, Lead, Hydrology, Social Impact, and the overall EIS process. The full water footprint and operational modelling for water take, re-use and water quality impacts will be considered in detail within the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Confirmation was provided in relation to compliance of the water pipeline installation.	Continued compliance under NSW Water Sharing Plans and Water Resource Plans under the current Water Management Act. Bowdens Silver will be undertaking an extensive engagement program in conjunction with the lodging of the EIS.
Operational impacts	The impacts of exploratory drilling and dust mitigation measures including suppression and recording were raised. The proponent responded to Questions on Notice on these matters. Technical presentations by EIS Consultants were provided in Meeting 3, focusing on Health, Lead, Hydrology, and the overall EIS process.	Ongoing discussions with the community via CCC. Bowdens Silver will be undertaking an extensive engagement program in conjunction with the lodging of the EIS.
Health Impacts	Lead levels and health concerns were raised as key concerns by community representatives of the committee. The proponent responded to Questions on Notice on these matters. Technical presentations by EIS Consultants were provided in Meeting 3, focusing on Health, Lead, Hydrology, and the overall EIS process.	Ongoing discussions with the community via CCC. Bowdens Silver will be undertaking an extensive engagement program in conjunction with the lodging of the EIS.

Table 5: Key Issues arising from the BSPCCC Meetings in 2018

2019 Focus Areas

The focus of the 2019 meetings will inevitably centre on the EIS process, as it is finalised and lodged with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

The proponent has indicated that a significant community engagement program will be undertaken as part of the exhibition of the EIS, in addition to the regular BSPCCC meetings.

The Committee will continue to discuss the key issues of concern as raised by representatives of the community, and design meeting agendas in collaboration with committee members to ensure the meetings remain relevant and informative.

The Independent Chair will continue to liaise with committee members to ensure a forum is provided for discussion between the proponent and representatives of the community, stakeholder groups and the local council on issues directly relating to the Bowdens Silver Project.

Signatory

Signature of Chair:	D. Watte
Date:	31 January 2019

Appendix A: Codes of Conduct

Code of Conduct Agreement – Independent Chairperson

As a condition of engagement, the independent chairperson of a Community Consultative Committee must agree to adhere to the following code of conduct.

Accepted behaviour

As the independent chairperson of the Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee, I understand I am expected to:

- personally chair all committee meetings, or if I can't be present, get the Planning Secretary of the Department to appoint an alternate chairperson for the meeting from its pool of independent chairpersons
- oversee the appointment of community representatives to the committee
- ensure that all matters dealt with by the committee fit within the purpose of the committee
- act as a convener, facilitator, mediator and advisor for the committee to ensure that members can put forward views and that they are not interrupted
- be independent and impartial with respect to all members of the committee
- create an atmosphere of open and constructive participation by the members of the committee where they can communicate relevant concerns, interests and ideas and express their reasons for any disagreement
- actively work with the members of the committee to try and resolve any disputes that may arise during the committee's activities
- ensure confidential matters handled by the committee are kept confidential
- be the key contact between the committee and the Department and other external parties
- advise the Department as soon as possible of any potential or actual conflict of interest that may affect my ability to fulfil my role on the committee
- ensure members of the committee comply with the code of conduct, and issue warnings to members who do not comply with this code
- review the performance of the committee from time to time and refer any matters of concern to the Department.

Signed declaration

As the independent chairperson of the committee, I agree to abide by this code of conduct.

I further declare that I have no conflicts of interest in relation to my appointment to this committee.

Code of Conduct Agreement – Members

As a condition of engagement, all members of Community Consultative Committees must agree to adhere to the following code of conduct.

Accepted conduct

As a member of the Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee, I understand I am expected to:

- attend committee meetings, at dates and times set by the committee's independent chairperson
- advise the independent chairperson in advance if I am unable to attend meetings
- respectfully engage with other members of the committee
- contribute to an atmosphere of open and constructive participation
- openly communicate relevant concerns, interests and ideas and make reasons for any disagreement clear in a constructive and thoughtful manner
- put forward views but also remain committed to open and shared dialogue
- actively work with the members of the committee to try and resolve any disputes that may arise during the committee's activities
- ensure confidential matters handled by the committee are kept confidential, and refrain from discussing these matters with other parties outside meetings
- not interrupt when another member is speaking
- not speak publicly on behalf of the committee
- not misrepresent the views of other members of the committee outside meetings
- immediately advise the independent chairperson during meetings of any potential or actual conflict of interest relating to matters under discussion
- abide by the directions of the independent chairperson.

I understand that if I miss three consecutive meetings I may be replaced on the committee.

Signed declaration

As a member of the committee, I agree to abide by this code of conduct.

Appendix B: Meeting Minutes

Meeting:	Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee - Meeting 1
Date:	Tuesday, 12 December 2017
Independent Chair:	Darryl Watkins
Location:	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee
Time:	5.00 – 7.00 PM

Attendees	
Mr James Armitage (member)	Cr John O'Neill (Mid-Western Regional Council)
Mr Bradley Robert Bliss J.P. (Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation)	Mr Keith Perrett (Silver Mines Ltd)
Mr Mick Boller (Lue Action Group)	Mr Anthony (Tony) McClure (Silver Mines Ltd)
Ms Sonia Christie (member)	Mr Jane Munro (Bowdens Silver Pty Limited)
Mr Tom Combes (member)	Mr Darryl Watkins (Independent Chair)
Ms Sally Dryburgh (member)	Mr Marc Snape (Minute Taker)
Mr John Lydiard (member)	

Sub	Subject		ctions
1.	Welcome & Introduction The Chair welcomed and thanked members for their attendance. Brad Bliss delivered Welcome to Country. The Chair acknowledged that some members had been on a previous Bowdens Silver Committee, while others were new members. Members were invited to introduce themselves and give brief introductions on their interest in the project and their background.	~	No actions.
2.	Apologies There were no apologies.	>	No actions.
3.	Pecuniary & Other Interests The Chair thanked members for submitting their pecuniary and non- pecuniary interest forms. The Chair declared to the Committee that he was appointed by the Department of Planning and Environment, and is remunerated by Silver Mines Limited.	>	Chair to create and manage register of declared interests and conflicts.
4.	CCC Guidelines and Code of Conduct The Chair briefly introduced the NSW Department of Planning & Environment's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines, and explained that the Committee will be run as per these guidelines. The Chair also advised the Committee that he has received signed Code of Conduct forms from all Committee members.	>	No actions.

	Chair's Expectations		
	The Chair outlined his expectations of the Committee. All members will:		
	 Approach the CCC in a spirit of goodwill and cooperation. Treat each other with trust, respect and mutual support. Respect each other's opinions. Provide timely information. 		
	 Provide constructive discourse and cooperation. Direct comments and questions through the Chair. 		
	The proponent will be expected to provide quality and timely information to the Committee in response to requests from the members, and questions taken on notice.		
	The meetings will not be run under formal meeting procedures (eg. There are no formal motions, movers, seconders etc), and any questions will be through the Chair.		
	The Chair noted there would be a presentation from the proponent later in the meeting, to be followed by questions. Committee members were asked to raise their hands during the presentation and a list of names would be kept by the Chair. All members would have an opportunity to ask questions.		
	Mick Boller noted that he has previously requested presentations from the proponent to be circulated prior to meeting, and asked if this was possible as part of this Committee.		
	Tony McClure advised the presentation is intended to be presented at the meeting.		
	The Chair acknowledged that it may be the case that the proponent needs to make changes to the presentation up to the day of meetings. The Chair will take this request on notice and advise the Committee once resolved.		Chair to advise Committee.
	The Chair read through the CCC Guidelines to reiterate the purpose of the meetings. The meetings are to serve as a conduit of information from the proponent to the community, and to provide feedback from the community to the Committee.		
	The Chair advised that no members are to speak to the media as a representative of the Committee other than the Chair. The Chair noted individuals can speak to media as a member of the community, however not as a member of the Committee.		
	Tom Combes sought clarity on how confidentiality is interpreted.		
	The Chair advised that it will be up to the individuals speaking to have that conversation regarding confidentiality. The Chair intends to establish a collaborative environment for the Committee.		
	Mick Boller noted that as a representative of the Lue Action Group, he has previously prepared separate minutes for the group, and they are often quite different to the official minutes.		
	The Chair requested the opportunity to review any separate minutes of Committee meetings before they are sent to third parties outside the committee.	>	Mick Boller to provide draft notes to Chair fo review.
6. 7.	Project Introduction & Update Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Status		
	Tony McClure gave a presentation (see Appendix A) introducing the Bowdens Silver Project to the Committee members and the current status of the project and EIS.		
	The Chair then commenced taking questions from members.	1	

Q1. Tom Combes sought clarification that the boundary of the project is 2.5 km to the north of Lue Village.

A1. Tony McClure confirmed that this is correct.

Q2. Tom Combes noted the project was described as a 'long term project', and sought clarification on what 'long term' means. A2. Tony McClure noted that the mine's design is still not finalised, with previous iterations outlining 10 and 20 years of development. The mine's development will be based on the reserve as an economic entity. This is very much a subset of the resource. There is certainly a possibility of increasing the resource, and the reserve within the current resource – this work is ongoing. In terms of longevity and long term opportunities for the mine, it could be ongoing long after we're gone, probably more as an underground operation. Tony advised he is unable to outline a technical perspective, but from a geological view there's likely to be expansion of depth. We are unlikely to know more on that for another 5 years or so. The feasibility will be undertaken for a short term project. Tom Combes clarified that the current forecast is 10-20 years with further possible works in the future. This was confirmed by the proponent.

Q3. Brad Bliss asked in relation to the open cut mine itself, what would be the depth of the open cut and will the pit be filled or rehabilitated? **A3.** Tony McClure advised that the resource goes to a depth of approximately 300m, and the pit in the current mine design is approximately 150m deep. In response to filling the pit, this would not be the case as it is uneconomic to do so. In a coal mine that may be the case, however he is unaware of any precious metal operations doing so. With coal mines, over a very large span of area, you have back filling as they go, so from a mining operation perspective it's a very different situation between coal and precious metal mines.

Q4. Tom Combes noted that during the presentation it was mentioned that shareholders were mostly mum and dad investors, but he understands the last share raising was from United States of America? **A4.** Tony McClure advised that was not the case - there are currently no US based owners in the company that the company is aware of. The proponent has institutional investors, and retail shareholders. Larger shareholders are typically the institutional investors. As far as the company is aware it has 2 international shareholders out of the UK, 1 out of Switzerland, the rest are Australian institutions. 96% of shareholders are Australia or New Zealand based. In terms of volume, many of those are small shareholders. Tom sought clarification that the major shareholders are major fund companies. Tony McClure advised this is correct. There are half a dozen of Australia's main shareholder organisations including Tribeca, Janus Henderson and others. Internationally, the largest is BlackRock based out of London.

Q5. Mick Boller asked a question regarding the EIS, and stated that he has not seen any mention of koalas in previous examples, and noted there had been a recent sighting of koalas on Bowdens property. Mick asked what steps had been taken regarding the koala sighting. **A5.** Tony McClure advised that EnviroKey are undertaking the ecological assessment. There are various chapters in the EIS covering terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna, and it is comprehensive. When it comes to specific animals, they will be considered as part of that assessment and this will include koalas. **Note:** Bowdens Silver has subsequently advised that the recent koala sighting which was publicised in the media was not sighted on Bowdens Silver property.

Q6. John Lydiard sought clarification that this Committee is only considering the Bowdens Silver Project development, and not discussing satellite pits?

A6. Tony McClure confirmed that is correct. If there's another discovery that leads to a potential mine development, that will be subject to a

separate EIS. There is a Bowdens EIS, and anything outside of that is exploration and not subject to an EIS unless there is a potential mine development proposal.	
 Q7. John Lydiard stated a concern that EL5920 is a certain size, but that outside influences could make that project much bigger. A7. Tony McClure confirmed that that is a possibility, but would be much later. Bowdens have other obligations on other exploration activities, and each of those have their own obligations. While that may not necessarily be in the form of another CCC, consultation takes place through the project website, mail outs, direct interactions with landholders etc. That consultation is as per the guidelines of the Department. 	
 Q8. Tom Combes asked about the groundwater consultant and design of the project. Tom sought 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). A8. Tony McClure advised he would take the question on notice. 	Bowdens to respond.
Q9. Tom Combes asked whether the groundwater model will be a "Class 3 Model" under national modelling guidelines. A9. Tony McClure advised he would take the question on notice.	 Question on notice. Bowdens to respond. Question on notice.
 Q10. Tom Combes sought to clarify with the proponent that only local residents or landowners can join the Lue Fire Brigade. Some volunteers applied to the brigade, but due to the Lue Fire Brigade's constitution, they were referred to Mudgee Brigade. None of those referrals have progressed to become members of the Mudgee Brigade. A10. Tony McClure advised he was happy to discuss this outside the committee forum. The personnel involved now understand the issue is in rules and regulations, but the site has several young guys willing to join. They now understand the constitution issues, but would like to find something more that we can do due to make use of the infrastructure Bowdens have onsite, including substantial water resources. Tom Combes advised the Rural Fire Brigade now works more as the midwestern regional group. It was agreed to discuss further outside of the Committee. 	 Bowdens to discuss with Tom Combes outside of CCC.
 Q11. Brad Bliss asked about registered indigenous groups around Aboriginal sites and surveys. Noted he was involved in previous surveys with Uncle Larry. The Aboriginal community interest is not just around Aboriginal history and artefacts, but also around the EIS, groundwater etc. Would appreciate the indigenous communities be included in those areas as well. A11. Tony McClure advised that Aboriginal and cultural heritage is also part of the EIS. Bowdens has a particular interest in history, and that is intrinsic to how we move forward with that and have been talking locally and will expand that further. There's a lot of history, both Aboriginal and European. There's a lot of information out there, but it's not well understood or well presented, and Bowdens would be delighted to help in that area as the project goes forward. 	
Q12. Sonia Christie noted in the presentation, a chart lists mine outputs for silver as per tonne, but for zinc and lead as a percentage. Sonia asked if it is possible to present all figures as a ratio of silver, zinc and lead.	
A12. Tony McClure advised that it's technically incorrect and they are unable to do that. If you look at scientific standards applied to reporting grades in geology in mining, there's a specific convention, and we don't go outside of that. It can be misleading in a way, to 'what's the dominant metal'. For example, gold is a very precious metal. If you presented percentages of gold and copper in a mine, Gold would be small percentage, but it's still a gold mine. The proponent sits under a very tight regulatory body, and we cannot report outside of that. Tom Combes advised he had previously worked up a chart, and could do	

	the same with the new numbers. The Chair requested that chart be forwarded to him, and will revisit the matter in the next meeting.	 Tom Combes to forward chart to the Chair
	Keith Perrett advised the Committee that the proponent is a publicly listed company, and have rules and regulations in how they report. The Chair advised that he's reserving his right as Chair as to how this is progressed, but committed to considering it and will discuss in Meeting 2. Tony McClure reiterated that as an ASX listed company, they cannot report outside of the Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) Code.	Chair.➤ The Chair will report back.
	Q13. James Armitage sought clarification that the mine site's boundary is just a subset of EL5920?A13. Tony McClure responded that this is correct, and that as the EIS process is completed, the boundary will be drawn just on operational site, not on the entire exploration site.	
	 Q14. John Lydiard asked at what point the EIS is released to the public. When the EIS is submitted, is it submitted as one document and does it all go live at the same time? Does it go to PAC for review first? A14. Tony McClure advised that the EIS goes public when it is lodged with the Department. The Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) review is a separate process, with various trigger points to go to PAC, such as objections to operation, if the proponent has made political donations etc. It is more a public process than a government process. There will be summary of each section, and comprehensive information with more detail for those who are interested. Q15. Brad Bliss asked about previously identified Aboriginal sites. On 	
	the drive in to the homestead, there's rocks in the paddock to the right - has that been fenced off? A15. Jane Munro advised that she believes it has been fenced off, but will take the question on notice to seek clarification. Keith Perrett advised that Bowdens had removed all livestock from that paddock as soon as they were alerted to the identification of artefacts, and that the entire paddock is now closed off to livestock.	 Bowdens to respond. Question on notice.
8.	CCC Members' requirements (DW)	
	The Chair opened discussions on what the Committee members may require to be effective. Think about matters that are important to you as Committee members and the community. The Chair wants to bring in technical experts to inform the Committee, but also want to seek feedback from members as to their priorities.	
	Sonia Christie suggested that future meeting dates for 2018 upfront would be great.	
	Sally Dryburgh noted that she is seeking truth and transparency from the Committee.	
	Tom Combes noted that if the presentation from Bowdens Silver could be circulated to Committee members before the meeting it would be appreciated. Tom also noted there are other members of the community who have asked to attend meetings as observers. In the past it has been a closed meeting.	
	The Chair advised he is fine with observers, but by consensus of the Committee. Upfront, we don't want disturbances, and if observers cause disruption they will be asked to leave and no longer allowed to attend as observers. They would have no right to speak.	
	Keith Perrett noted that as observers they wouldn't be restricted by the same Code of Conduct. This concern was also voiced by other	
	members of the Committee.	

Councillor John O'Neill advised that the Council process is to allow observers during presentations, but they must leave during Q&As or confidential periods.

The Committee gave consensus to the principle of observers. A formal request must be made in writing to the Chair, which must be approved. An Observer's Code of Conduct will be signed by all observers before entering.

John Lydiard raised a concern that we should avoid just having quarterly meetings that is just a presentation with slightly updated numbers. He noted that not a lot can happen over a 12 month period with these projects unless something changes. He would like to hear from a water expert to discuss the impact on the Lue Valley. Keith Perrett advised that the proponent can't change the water. It's outlined very clearly in the EIS what companies have to cater for in this sort of development. John noted that any water that falls on the site can't leave the site. Would be good to learn what effect does that have downstream, because everything is downstream from the mine.

Keith Perrett noted he has no problems with experts addressing the Committee, but only if it's relevant and worthwhile for members. It's not about not wanting to provide the information, it's about having the right experts who can report with relevant information. Keith noted that the proponent is a publicly listed company.

Tony McClure advised that generally the proponent has a quarterly report, followed 2 weeks later by a community newsletter, and then a CCC meeting after that. That's more relevant in an exploratory phase. In operational phase, any substantial information has to be released the moment it's finalised, and the proponent can't hold information. Once the EIS is completed, Bowdens will also have a full information day with every one of the primary consultants present, to allow every member of the community to critically analyse the information. Bowdens previously had an information day with those experts primarily to explain the work they're doing, not the results they were finding.

Mick Boller stated he was interested in how the Chair proposes to record dissenting views. Mick noted that in previous committees there were some dissenting views that were completely ignored in minutes. If there's a group of members who have a dissenting view, how will that be recorded?

The Chair advised that minutes are taken of each meeting, and that the Chair is required under the guidelines to have a draft version circulated within one week of the meeting, and a final version circulated within two weeks of the meeting. Some leeway on this is required, especially over the forthcoming Christmas period. Mick sought clarification of dissenting views of the minutes, and whether that would be recorded as a dissenting view. The Chair advised that it won't be recorded as a specific criticism, but the minutes may note 'consensus not reached'.

The Chair advised that his goal is to make this a workable forum - this isn't a decision making body, it's an advisory body, therefore no dissenting views will be recorded.

Mick Boller remarked that one of the things that has driven him to be involved with the Committee, is to ensure people who live in the area are aware of how close they are to the project. Mick would like to ensure approximately 2-300 people who live within several kilometres of the pit and infrastructure layout are informed.

Jane Munro commented that she would like to see more of a focus in the Committee on Bowdens and what we've done, and what we're going to do.

James Armitage sought clarification on the Code of Conduct, which outlines "spreading the word" to the community as a requirement. The Chair advised that it's about speaking with authority about what you've Bowdens to respond.
 Question on notice.

heard in these meetings. The presentation and meeting minutes will be on the website, so the information is available. As pillars in your communities, you are perfectly within your rights to speak to the community about the project.	
James Armitage also agreed with the request for experts to speak to the Committee. James advised he has two big areas of interest: the genuine social impact – what are the genuine social impacts for the entire area that we can see; and the cultural and historical aspects. Tony McClure advised that the consultant undertaking the social impact assessment is going above and beyond what you would see in other mining operations.	
Brad Bliss advised he would like to undertake a site visit, and in terms of technical experts, would like to hear from hydrological, environmental, and archaeological (indigenous and non-indigenous) experts.	
The Chair agreed that a site visit would be helpful, and suggested the second meeting be held onsite, and that part of that meeting be a site visit, with the rest of the meeting completed in the facilities on site.	Meeting 2 to be held on site.
9. Communication with Broader Community	Deferred to Meeting 2.
10. Meeting Dates for 2018	
The Chair sought input on the next meeting dates. The Committee agreed with the following dates:	 Chair to liaise with Bowdens to organise
 14 February 2018 – 5.00 - 7.00 pm Site visit and Q&A 14 March 2018 – 5.00 - 7.00 pm Regular CCC meeting with technical experts (tbc) 	technical expert presentations.
11. Agenda Items for Meeting 2	
Discussed as part or Item 10. Site visit and Q&A.	Chair to advise.
12. CLOSE MEETING	
The Chair thanked Committee members for attending and their positive participation and contributions. Meeting closed 7.05 pm.	
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Meeting:	Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee - Meeting 2
Date:	Wednesday, 14 February 2018
Independent Chair:	Darryl Watkins
Location:	Bowdens Silver, 68 Maloneys Road, Lue NSW 2850
Time:	5.00 – 7.40 PM

Attendees	
Mr James Armitage (member)	Cr John O'Neill (Mid-Western Regional Council)
Mr Bradley Robert Bliss J.P. (Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation)	Mr Blake Hjorth (Bowdens Silver Pty Limited)
Mr Mick Boller (Lue Action Group)	Ms Jane Munro (Bowdens Silver Pty Limited)
Ms Sonia Christie (member)	Mr Scott Munro (Bowdens Silver Pty Limited)
Mr Tom Combes (member)	Mr Darryl Watkins (Independent Chair)
Ms Sally Dryburgh (member)	Mr Marc Snape (Minute Taker)
Mr John Lydiard (member)	
Apologies	
Mr Keith Perrett (Silver Mines Ltd)	Mr Anthony (Tony) McClure (Silver Mines Ltd)

Sub	Subject /		tions
1.	Site Tour The Committee was taken on a site tour of the Bowdens Silver site. The Chair advised that while members were permitted to take photos in their capacity as a CCC member during the site tour, any republication of those photos would need to be subject to written permission being obtained from Bowdens Silver. See BSPCCC Meeting 2 - Attachment A for tour schedule.	A	No actions.
2.	Welcome & Introduction The Chair welcomed and thanked members for their attendance and thanked Bowdens Silver staff for organising the site tour. Bradley Bliss delivered Welcome to Country.	*	No actions.
3.	Apologies The Chair noted apologies from Tony McClure and Keith Perrett.	>	No actions.
4.	Pecuniary & Other Interests The Chair advised that members of the Committee have a responsibility to keep their Declarations of Interests up to date. There is no requirement to wait to update the declaration in a meeting. Members are requested to update their interest register if and when there is a change.	A	No actions.

-	Minutes and Actions of previous meeting (DW) The minutes of Meeting 1 were noted.	4	No actions.
	The minutes of Meeting T were noted.		
-	Site visit Q&A The Chair requested questions from Committee members regarding the site visit, and questions were asked and responded to in an orderly fashion.		
	Q1. Bradley Bliss asked a question regarding the flotation method to extract the resource, noting that the resulting concentrate is a lead/silver mix, what would be the approximate lead content of the extracted material.		
	A1. Scott Munro advised that while this would be an unqualified answer, the extracted concentrate would be a variable percentage of the original mass. The extraction process doesn't just extract the silver, and the make-up of the concentrate would deviate, depending on which source area being mined at any one time.		
	Q2. Bradley Bliss asked how that concentrate would be transported from the site, and what percentage of lead is captured in the concentrate		
	A2. Scott Munro advised that the concentrate will be transported from the site in encapsulated trucks. Recovery of lead through the extraction process to the concentrate is approximately 80-85%.		
	The Chair advised that he has asked Bowdens Silver to provide an expert on lead and health, and that has been confirmed for Meeting 3.		
	The Chair acknowledged a table of calculations that Tom Combes had developed, and that he has provided that to Bowdens Silver for comment.	>	Bowdens to respond Question on notice.
	The Chair noted that while the above answers have been given, the questions will be recorded as Questions on Notice.		
	Q3. Mick Boller sought clarification that approximately 15% of lead would not be recovered at the end of the process.		
	A3. Scott Munro confirmed that there is a proportion that the extraction process can't recover. That will go to the tailings dam - some of that will be in sulphide form, some in silicate form.		
	Q4. Tom Combes stated that during the site tour, it was advised that the mine was 2.5 - 3 kms from Lue to the centre of the pit. Measuring on the map, that pit is approximately 1km across, and it is therefore approximately 2km between the edge of pit to the centre of the village of Lue. The waste rock placement on the map is closer again. There's been no talk of compensation for the people of Lue, and the people of Lue are very concerned about the location of the mine.		
	A4. Question taken as a comment.		
	Q5. Tom Combes advised that his understanding is that water will not be taken from a high security water source somewhere in a remote location, (e.g. Windamere Dam) but that all water for use on this mine will be either collected from run off, or sourced from on-site?	e nine o at a as	
	A5. Jane Munro advised that that was not correct. There's been no determination made on that matter, and Bowdens Silver is looking at a variety of sources for water. This is still under active consideration as part of the feasibility process.		
	The project will collect run off, but the plans have moved on since the last meeting and Bowdens Silver is still developing its strategy. Bowdens Silver is looking at all possibilities.		
	Tom Combes noted that this is a very critical question for the people in Lue. There is a drought and the surface water is about to stop, and residents will become completely reliant on bore water in this valley.		

The area is on fractured rock, with small, localised pockets of water that is collected from the cracks. Residents are assuming the mine will go far deeper than any of the local bores in the area (approx. $20 - 100m$), so the impact could be significant.	
Sonia Christie commented that the whole system locally is based on reticulated water. It would be the end of her business if the local water source is interrupted.	
Tom Combes noted that he would be 100% opposed to the project taking water from on-site, or even capturing surface water. It would be much more preferable for the water to be sourced from a regulated, high-security water source like Windamere Dam.	
The Chair advised that on this issue, Bowdens Silver have been asked to provide a hydrologist to Meeting 3 to answer all of these questions.	
Q6. Tom Combes advised that the local residents are concerned about the tailing storage facility and what the impact will be. The Committee can see where the dam will be located, and its proximity to Lawsons Creek. Lawsons Creek goes directly to Mudgee. Any failing or leaching at all, and there is less than 1km of safety zone until the main water source into Mudgee.	
Tom noted that at Meeting 1, he asked what size rain event the tailings dam is being constructed to. There is major concern about the tailings dam, construction safety, standards, and what impact it will have for Lawsons Creek and Mudgee. What mitigations are being undertaken?	
A6. The Chair advised that this question will be responded to at the Meeting 3 with the water expert.	 Bowdens to respond. Question on notice.
Q7. Tom Combes asked why there is no wind monitoring at higher levels, such as on Bingman Hill, visited during the site tour. Tom advised that he believes most of the existing wind monitoring sites are in gullies or at lower altitude, measuring localised wind currents and blowing in all different directions. Tom believes there is a need for wind monitoring at higher locations, such as Bingman Hill to identify prevailing winds in the area.	
Tom advised there was a recent incident where he saw dust rising from a drill rig, and while there was no wind on the ground, the dust rose to certain height then was picked up by a higher wind current.	 Question on notice. Tom Combes to provide incident
A7. Scott Munro advised that all drill rigs are equipped with dust suppression, but that Bowdens Silver would investigate.	details. Bowdens Silver to investigate.
Q8. Sally Dryburgh advised that standing at the vantage point was very useful to see topography, and asked if there is any way of having a 3D model made available to the community, so that the committee can visualise it and better explain to the community.	
A8. Scott Munro commented that this was an excellent point. Bowdens Silver have met and discussed the merits of a 3D format, with several platforms being investigated. This is something Bowdens Silver have discussed, and intend to do, pending the completion of the feasibility study, and will be further demonstrated in the EIS.	
The Chair clarified that the feasibility study will confirm total layout of the entire area, and then once all matters are confirmed, Bowdens Silver will confirm a 3D model.	
Bowdens Silver will continue to investigate and advise of a decision in due course. Sally noted that a physical 3D model of the area would be more accessible to the community.	 Bowdens to advise. Question on notice.
Q9. Sally Dryburgh asked what the shortest timeframe is until digging starts, if all approval steps go to plan.	
A9. Jane Munro advised that currently Bowdens Silver is unable to say. It won't be less than a year, probably closer to two years, but depends on assessment process.	

 The Chair advised that there will be an EIS process that the public gets a chance to provide input to, then there may be clarifications, further approval process etc. It's quite an extensive process. Q10. Sally Dryburgh asked if someone in Lue grows vegetables, and is worried about lead dust on the produce, how that person can be sure that they can feed the vegetables to their children. A10. Jane Munor advised that there's already background lead levels in Lue, which tells us the naturally occurring levels of dust in the area. The proponent's lead expert will then model the mine using all the parameters are all fed into a model that predicts if there would be any increase from those background levels, and then suppression and mitigation is designed to prevent any increase. Tom Combes asked what the predicted change is currently. Jane advised that the predicted change is currently. Q11. Mick Boller asked what wind and dust monitoring is done to the East of the site. People hem finalised. X011. Question taken on notice. Q12. Mick Boller advised in Meeting 1 he had asked a question about a koala spythting. The response provided by Bowdens Silver protept. X12. Question taken as a comment. As previously stated, impart on any local koala spythting. The response provided further information on the location of the koala sighting. The koala was sighted on the western side of Powells Road, nearby the entrance to the property. X13. Question taken on notice. To be clarified. X14. Jane Munro advised that Bowdens Silver risormation on the massed in baw is currently weeks, but may be not a scourate. Mick advised the had taken data from the nearest bore hole from his property and it was 2.2 km. Mick advised that the sposibly planning on renovation		
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Lue Action Group are happy with the minutes from Meeting 1 and haven't felt it necessary to circulate separate minutes to the group.	
A15. Question taken as a comment.	
Q16. James Armitage advised that he undertook some research after Meeting 1 regarding lead and young people, and would like to be able to provide some answers to people around the impact of lead. The research suggested that a large number of lead exposure/contamination is from the smelting process is that correct?	
A16. Jane Munro advised that they had some information up at a past Lue open day, with posters about lead.	
Sonia Christie remarked that the information on those posters was very non-specific, and the community need details.	
Blake Hjorth advised that the lead expert at the next meeting would be able to provide advice on this question.	
The Chair advised that the Committee will hear from a lead expert in Meeting 3, and then should the Committee feel the need for further information, options can be discussed then.	 Lead expert to advise re: lead exposure at Meeting 3.
Q17. Tom Combes noted that many of the concerns of the community stem from the mine being an open cut proposal. Tom sought reasoning behind why the mine isn't underground.	
A17. Scott Munro advised that it wouldn't be an economic proposition to do underground mining. The majority of similar deposits around the world are open cut. The minority of projects that are underground do so due to the high grade and greater depth.	
Q18. Sally Dryburgh asked if this project is unique and whether there are other silver mines to reference in Australia.	
A18. Scott Munro advised this is the largest undeveloped sliver deposit in Australia. There are similar deposits in Mexico or Peru. In terms of size, this project would be classed as a moderate operation.	
Sally commented that she suspects the standards of operation wouldn't be as good in those countries.	
Scott advised that he had visited many mines overseas, and that Australia is leading the way in safety and standards.	
Sonia Christie asked whether the Texas Silver Mine is bigger or smaller than Bowdens.	
Scott advised that a lot of the mines in that area are very small. Most silver in Australia is produced as a by-product of other mining. There is no precedent for a silver mine in Australia like Bowdens, however there are similar mines overseas.	
Q19. Bradley Bliss asked what would be the expected lifespan of the open cut mine.	
A19. Scott Munro advised the proponent is still completing the feasibility, and once that is complete, Bowdens Silver can be more definitive. The range of operation previously provided in Meeting 1 was 10-20 years of operations.	
Q20. Mick Boller asked regarding Scott Munro's experience with Cadia East mine, and what the impact zone around the mine was.	
A20. Scott Munro advised he didn't work for the proponent, but lived close to the processing plant for 10 years. In terms of engagement, they engaged reasonably extensively into community.	
Level of impact is difficult to describe, but for 99% of the time, there was no impact. Occasionally there may have been a bit of noise and once in that 10 years they may have exceeded the night time restrictions.	

	Scott advised he lived 3 kms from the plant, 4 kms from the open pit, and 4.5 kms from the plant. The open pit is now currently closed and all underground.		
	Q21. John Lydiard asked whether it is possible to quantify the water that is going to be held back on site. Nothing on site will be able to leave the site so is it possible to quantify how much water won't be entering into Lawsons creek.		
	A21. The Chair advised that this question will be responded to at the Meeting 3 with the hydrology expert.		Hydrology expert to advise re: water levels at Meeting 3.
7.	Communication with Broader Community		
	The Chair asked for suggestions on how the Committee can communicate to the broader community, as this is an important role of the Committee.		
	Cr John O'Neill suggested the Mid-Western Regional Council's Community News, which is circulated monthly. John also suggested that if the committee will have an upcoming opportunity with an expert, to advertise that beforehand.	>	Cr John O'Neill to investigate at next Council meeting and report back.
	James Armitage suggested Community Capers community newsletter for the Rylstone Kandos area, and also physical copies in newsagents.		
	Tom Combes suggested possibly putting physical copies of the minutes of each meeting at the Lue pub or school. Maybe even further afield in Rylstone etc.		Blake Hjorth to
	Blake Hjorth advised he would investigate if these suggestions are possible.		investigate various options and report back.
8.	Meeting Dates for 2018		
	BSPCCC Meeting 3 5.30 – 7.30 pm 10 April 2018	>	Bowdens to organise venue.
	Venue: Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee (TBC)		
9.	Agenda Items for Meeting 3		
	Meeting 3 will focus on discussion around surface and ground water, health, and lead, with experts in attendance to answer questions.	>	Bowdens to organise experts to attend Meeting 3.
10.	CLOSE MEETING		
	The Chair thanked Committee members for attending and their positive participation and contributions.		

CCC Site Tour 14th February 2018

Attendees

Bowdens Silver	CCC Members
Blake Hjorth (Community Liaison Officer	Darryl Watkins (Chairperson)
Scott Munro (Senior Project Geologist)	Marc Snape (Minute Taker)
Tom Purcell (Environmental Officer)	Jane Munro
Grace Barber (Geologist)	Mick Boller
James Keech (Farm Manager)	Tom Combes
Tom Klein (Geologist)	John Lydiard
Georgie King (HR)	Sonia Christie
	Bradley Bliss
	Sally Dryburgh
	James Armitage (Apology for tour)
	John O'Neill

Schedule

Activity	Who?
Welcome and overview of site tour	Blake Hjorth
	Community Liaison Officer
Brief farm overview	James Keech
Visitor site induction	Farm Manager
Brief geology overview	Grace Barber
Core displayed on table	Geologist
Vehicle allocation	Blake Hjorth
	Community Liaison
Site tour in vehicle convoy	All
Discussion on proposed infrastructure from vantage point.	Scott Munro
	Senior Project Geologist
Brief overview of environmental testing at monitoring station.	Tom Purcell
	Environmental Officer
CCC Meeting as per formal agenda	CCC Members

Meeting:	Bowdens Silver Project CCC - Meeting 3		
Date:	Tuesday, 10 April 2018		
Location:	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee		
Time:	5.30 – 7.30 PM		

Attendees			
Mr James Armitage (Member)	Ms Jane Munro (Bowdens Silver Pty Limited)		
Mr Bradley Robert Bliss J.P. (Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation)	Mr Keith Perrett (Silver Mines Ltd)		
Mr Mick Boller (Lue Action Group)	Mr Darryl Watkins (Independent Chair)		
Ms Sonia Christie (Member)	Mr Marc Snape (Minute Taker)		
Mr Tom Combes (Member)	Mr Rob Corkery (EIS Project Manager)		
Ms Sally Dryburgh (Member)	Dr Jackie Wright (Lead/Health Consultant)		
Mr John Lydiard (Member)	Mr Paul Ryall (Hydrology Consultant)		
Mr Anthony (Tony) McClure (Silver Mines Ltd)			
Apologies			
Cr John O'Neill (Mid-Western Regional Council)			

Subject		Actions	
1.	Welcome & Introduction The Chair welcomed and thanked members for their attendance, and thanked Bowdens for arranging to have subject matter experts attend to the Committee. Bradley Bliss delivered Welcome to Country.	 No actions. 	
2.	Apologies The Chair noted an apology from Cr John O'Neill.	No actions.	
3.	Pecuniary & Other Interests The Chair requested members of the Committee keep their Declarations of Interests up to date as any changes arise.	 No actions. 	
4.	 Minutes and Actions of previous meeting (DW) The Chair noted that most of the Questions on Notice from Meeting 2 would be answered in the presentations that will be given at this meeting. Following up on other actions, Tom Combes provided details of the dust sighting incident to Bowdens Silver for further investigation. Jane Munro reported that Blake Hjorth had spoken with Cr John O'Neill and been advised that the web address of the Committee minutes will be listed in community news. Correction: Councillor O'Neill has made inquiries regarding the possibility of the web address for the CCC 	No actions.	

	Minutes being listed in the Mid-Western Regional Council Community News. No response has been received to date.	Cr O'Neill to confirm with MWRC.
	The Lue Hotel has also agreed to have minutes available on its notice board. The Minutes can also be made available at the Rylstone Newsagency.	
	Bowdens Silver determined that it was not appropriate to ask the Lue Public School to accept copies of the CCC Minutes. James Armitage noted that there would likely be conflict of interest issues around offering minutes in schools.	
	It was also reported that Community Capers are happy to list the web address of minutes and take copies of the minutes as well in Rylstone.	
	Mick Boller raised a Question on Notice around existing lead levels in Lue. The Chair noted that if the question is not answered in the Lead Health expert's presentation it can be revisited in the Q&A.	
5.	Expert Presentations	
	The Chair invited Rob Corkery to introduce the EIS process and his Company's role. Rob outlined that their role, and speciality is bringing together various specialist consultants and coordinating the EIS process. On this particular project there are 13 or 14 consultants working on various aspects. Rob then introduced Paul Ryall as the hydrologist expert, and Dr Jackie Wright as the lead/health expert to present to the committee.	
	Paul Ryall presented to the group on hydrology, including techniques and methodologies. A copy of Paul Ryall's presentation is attached to these minutes. This was then followed by a Q&A session.	
	Q1. Tom Combes asked how long ago the monitoring of rainfall and stream flow in Hawkins Creek commenced. There was a rain event in 2003 that was the largest rain event in memory that wouldn't be captured by this data.	
	A1. Paul advised that data collection commenced on the Bowdens Site around 6 years ago. There's no publicly available gauge data in the catchment, and that period is a reasonably sufficient timeframe to collect gauge data to inform the development and calibration of the hydrological model.	
	The hydrological model is essentially a 1D model, developed to establish the relationship between rainfall and runoff in the catchment. We look at a range of information such as topographic surveys, imagery etc, to build the model. The results of applying rainfall to the model is then compared to the recorded gauge and rainfall data so as to calibrate the model to ensure that it reflects the actual system. The model is not used to generate a direct comparison from the 6 years of recorded data.	
	Q2. Tom Combes stated that the community has concerns about the tailings dam and dams that Bowdens are building. What's the worst case rain event that the dams are designed for?	
	A2. Paul clarified that whilst the specific layout or design for the mine was not yet available, there are very strict criteria that must be implemented for the design, construction and operation of the dam. These design criteria vary, dependent upon the "Consequence Category" of the dam. For instance, a High C tailings dam would be designed and operated to retain sufficient capacity to manage the 1 in 100 year 72 hour rainfall event. Oversight of these dams in NSW is undertaken by the NSW Dam Safety Committee, a statutory body. The NSW Dam Safety Committee have a lot of information and fact sheets	

available online, so recommend that as a resource for further reading [see <u>http://www.damsafety.nsw.gov.au/default.htm</u>].

Q3. Tom Combes asked in relation to groundwater, where the water from the pit goes. If a 300m deep hole is dug, it will attract water from fractured rock. Where does that go?

A3. Paul advised that in an open cut pit, there are sumps where some of the groundwater inflow would report to. A considerable proportion of the groundwater will invariably evaporate from the rock faces on the sides of the open cut pit, so it would be lost. The total volume of groundwater inflow to the open cut pit would need to be accounted for by BSPL and water access licences issued under the relevant Water Sharing Plan would need to be obtained by BSPL. The volume of groundwater inflow to the open cut pit would be determined from a calibrated groundwater model which is also required to be independently peer reviewed. Similar to the hydrological model, the groundwater model is calibrated to the data collected from BSPL's groundwater monitoring network. Any water that was collected in the sumps in the bottom of the open cut pit would be pumped out and introduced to the processing circuit to maximise the efficient use of water resources.

Q4. Tom Combes asked whether the data used for predicting groundwater inflow and the effect on water table comes from actual data testing or just modelling.

A4. Paul advised that the aquifer characteristics input into the groundwater model are derived from real world, site specific data. Paul then explained various methodologies of data collection and modelling. The model is then run over a known time period, and the model results are then compared to the observational data collected from the groundwater monitoring network to calibrate the model.

Q5. John Lydiard noted that Paul had commented that ideally, clean water is diverted around disturbed areas on site. If not, that quantity of water then has to be dealt with on site. The water also can't be discharged off site as it may have been exposed to sources of contamination on site. Has it been quantified yet how much water will be diverted, and how much water is not going to flow into Lawsons Creek?

A5. Paul advised that the quantity of water to be diverted has not yet been calculated. It will be calculated using a model. The Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) would hold any rainfall that falls on the surface of the TSF and any clean water that can be diverted away from that will be diverted. For the TSF, an exemption under the Water Management Regulations would be sought as an excluded work. Such an exemption wouldn't be approved unless efforts are made to divert clean water away from the TSF.

Paul confirmed that the full footprint of the mine will be in the EIS, and clarified that generally it's not a matter of fully isolating and removing all runoff from the entire mine and that large parts of the mine site would remain as part of the contributing catchment for Hawkins Creek and Lawsons Creek.

Q6. Bradley Bliss enquired about the peer review process and noted that while this peer review process is done by one reviewer, he had been involved in other processes requiring up to three independent peer reviewers.

A6. Paul advised that the requirement stipulates the Applicant needs to have the groundwater model peer reviewed. It is Paul's understanding

that the model is also subjected to further peer review by personnel appointed by the relevant Department.		
Q7. Sonia Christie asked a question on pH testing and metals monitoring (ANZECC suite of metals). What sort of changes would be expected?		
A7. Paul advised that they look at long term statistics to identify the median values of the test site, as well those collected upstream and downstream of the mine. In most watercourses in Australia, flow varies depending on rainfall, as does the concentration of various water quality parameters. The Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC) nominates a 20th/80th percentile range as being suitable slightly to moderately disturbed aquatic ecosystems. If results start to approach the percentile range, that will trigger investigations.		
Sonia asked if the monitoring results are self-reported or audited, and how many bores are being monitored?		
Paul advised that exceedances of Environment Protection Licence conditions are mandatorily reported to the EPA within a specific timeframe whilst all monitoring results are required to be submitted annually. There are at least 40 bores being monitored.		
Q8. Sonia Christie asked what the "make-good" provisions for privately owned/neighbouring bores are.		
A8. Paul advised that a Company needs to make sure the water supply of an existing groundwater user isn't adversely impacted. If a bore is adversely impacted, the Company would be required to install another bore. If there is hypothetically no water that can be accessed by another bore, the Company would need to ensure the existing groundwater user has access to a water supply through other methods which would be agreed between the bore owner and the proponent.		
Q9. Mick Boller asked where the VSW13 bore is located.	>	Bowdens to respond.
A9. Paul was unable to advise without details.		Question on notice.
Q10. Mick Boller stated that previous proponents had said there would be no effect on sites over 500m away from the mine. Does that statement stand?		
A10. Paul responded that the distance and extent of likely groundwater drawdown will be known when the final mine site is designed and the groundwater assessment is completed, and that the information will be in EIS.		
Q11. James Armitage asked whether the groundwater monitoring bores are only on site.		
A11. Paul advised that they need to capture data from a broader area to appreciate the regional impacts, so no. Data collection points are located across a broader footprint than just the mine site.		
Q12. Mick Boller asked how many private bores are being monitored.		
A12. Question will be taken on notice.	>	Bowdens to respond. Question on notice.
Tony McClure commented that they are fortunate to have a considerable data set over a 6 year period, so the modelling that can be done is very good.		Question on notice.
Q13. James Armitage asked whether the data is analysed independently.		

A13. Tony McClure advised that the sampling is undertaken by Bowdens staff but analysed independently.

Q14. James Armitage noted that there are different sets of topography around the mine, and asked whether diverted water will be maintained within the same catchment, or will it transfer to another catchment?

A14. Paul advised all water would still remain in the same broader Hawkins and Lawsons Creek catchments.

The Chair thanked Paul for his presentation and invited Dr Jackie Wright to present. Dr Jackie Wright presented to the committee on lead and human health. A copy of a PowerPoint slide referred to is attached to these minutes.

Jackie outlined that when looking at lead, experts look at how it might be released, and then how we as people might be exposed to that lead and what effect it might have. Jackie noted that lead is already naturally in the environment in water, food, air and soils and that all people are already exposed to lead, albeit likely to be at comparatively low levels.

When looking at lead from mines or crustal materials, or other sources like smelting, it is important to understand the "type" of lead - not all lead from different sources is as bioavailable as others.

This particular project would not have smelting, so no lead production from a stack, hot lead fumes etc, so those exposures coming from smelting are not part of this project.

With this project, focus would be on the breaking up of rocks, and emitting crustal dust. Chunkier parts of dust tend to fall out of the air fairly quickly. Smaller dust may travel further distances, which then may settle onto surfaces, be caught up in rain water etc., and be inhaled.

Crustal lead from ore bodies tend to be very much less bioavailable. It's important to understand how it might get into our bodies, then from the mine what the levels of lead might be.

There is conclusive evidence that blood lead levels of 10 micrograms per decilitre or higher have numerous negative effects in adults and children Recent studies and reviews by NHMRC have looked at health effects and blood lead levels of 5-10 micrograms per decilitre range (5 is considered background levels). The studies found a statistical association behind blood lead levels and IQ and behavioural problems in children, however can't say that lead was the cause of those effects as studies were problematic.

These types of projects where there are a lot of mitigation measures put in place, we look at those measures and ensure there are minimised impacts. No project would be approved if adverse health impacts are predicted.

Jackie's presentation was then followed by a Q&A session.

Q15. Mick Boller advised that at a previous meeting, a question was asked whether it was safe to eat vegetables grown in Lue.

A15. The answer is yes. Lead is one of the least phytoavailable metals. It doesn't get into the edible parts of plants. If there's dust, then maybe from the surface, but lead can't move within the plant itself.

Mick also asked about whether rain water would be safe. As of March 2018, is it safe for the people of Lue to drink the water here? What are the background levels?

Jackie advised that any dust that settles on roofs etc can be washed into rain water tanks. We have collected some data about what's existing in rain water tanks in both the water and the sediment at the bottom of tanks. There's also lead flashing in roof materials, and some older roof metals have lead in them that dissolve with rain water. Jackie advised that as per the information available to her at the moment, yes it's safe. There was a graph with background levels at a previous community information session that can be circulated to the committee.

Q16. James Armitage asked what manufacturing processes make lead more bioavailable.

A16. Jackie advised that many processes make lead more bioavailable. If you have lead paint flakes in soil for example, very bioavailable. Some mineral forms of lead that tend to come from manufacturing are more bioavailable than natural. The EIS will look at these different exposures.

Q17. James Armitage sought confirmation that water doesn't make lead more bioavailable?

A17. No. Some forms of lead are more soluble than others. Lead is generally not soluble when well bound to soil/sediment.

Q18. Tom Combes referred to a lead expert Prof Barry Noller and advised that he has recently received a lot of information from him on this mine. Professor Noller believes there will be an impact, and that there will be an impact for up to 5km from the mine, with quite a high impact within 2km of this mine.

A18. Jackie Wright advised that she hasn't conducted studies for this mine yet and doesn't have the results of the studies yet to be able to establish what the air quality and dust moving from the site will be. Jackie noted from experience with other mine sites, air quality mitigation measures are included as part of licence requirements to keep at low levels and ensure they are managed properly. Jackie noted that she has previously not seen dust impacts any great distance away from a mine, certainly not 5km or 2km away, and certainly not levels that would have a health impact. The detailed studies for this mine haven't been concluded, so it is uncertain what Professor Noller is basing his reporting on.

Tom Combes remarked that he hasn't been able to find any other mines this close to communities and asked for advice on other mines that Jackie refers to that have been assessed.

Jackie referred to Broken Hill and Mt Isa in relation to new operations to do with new stockpiles and placement of new operations in different parts of mines. The mitigation measures to reduce impacts on the community have certainly been considered closely, noting those towns are very close to the mines. Jackie also mentioned coal mines in the Hunter Valley, power stations in relation to what comes out of those and where dust and particles go and what the health impacts are. A lot of work has been done and all those mitigations get factored in. If the mitigations aren't sufficient, the feedback will be that the design is not good enough. Jackie stated that she would never provide an assessment that supported a project that has a health impact.

Q19. Sonia Christie asked whether baseline blood testing would be recommended.

A19. Certainly would be a useful reference. The testing could be best if coordinated with NSW Health.

Q20. Sonia Christie enquired about the capacity for silica to have health impacts including silicosis.

A20. Jackie advised that would be considering this as part of the EIS. There are ways of assessing silica exposure to the community.

Bowdens to provide graph of background lead levels. **Q21.** Tom Combes commented that Professor Barry Noller also mentioned wind speeds and said that the maximum wind speed and wind currents are critical to accurately measure dust movement. Professor Noller criticised previous wind data in a Kingsgate report. We had an inspection at the mine a couple of months ago, and we noted that the data being collected by Kingsgate is also being used by BSPL and same locations, and we also noted there's no wind monitoring at higher points.

A21. Jackie advised that she isn't responsible for the air quality monitoring but does have a good understanding. There is quite a lot of wind and meteorological data in Lue village and on site. There are also rules as to where those monitoring stations can be placed and they have to be placed within those rules. When air modelling is done, they incorporate that information, plus all the information around the terrain. The model creates a meteorological data file - how the wind moves and how it is influenced by valleys, higher hills etc. It then uses all that information to create a net data processing file, to then confirm with the monitoring data. It's a standard approach approved by the EPA. We can't measure every single location, so the modelling process and data has to be correct for consultants to use it.

Q22. James Armitage noted that Jackie had mentioned a range of minerals and asked whether there are any other minerals of concern.

A22. Jackie advised that in relation to other metals also present in the Bowdens Site, there is some zinc. Will consider all the metals that are present in the rocks as part of the EIS including silver, lead, zinc and so forth, but zinc is not particularly toxic to humans.

James also sought clarification that mitigation measures are to keep exposure below background levels?

Jackie advised that mitigation measures are designed to keep any impact to health as negligible – to levels so low that we wouldn't be able to measure the impact on human health.

James asked about studies previously mentioned looking at lead exposure of 5-10 micrograms lead/blood levels.

Jackie advised that the studies were mostly out of USA, but some were from Australia, and of varying quality. The National Health and Medical Research Centre has carefully reviewed each study.

Q23. James Armitage asked whether there is an accumulative effect of lead from a health perspective.

A23. Jackie advised that once lead gets in your body it accumulates in your bones. What is measured in blood is probably actually 1-2% of what's in your body. Lead deposited in bones stays for quite a long time, and more lead can move into blood when the body is under stress such as when pregnant, significant weight loss et. That is also part of what we look at during the EIS.

James asked whether the expectation from mitigation is that there won't be any increase beyond existing levels?

Jackie advised that is correct for measurable increases.

Q24. John Lydiard asked about lead in batteries and what makes it so highly bioavailable.

A24. Jackie advised that it's the form of lead. The lead oxides are very bioavailable. It is lead oxide that is in old paints, lead batteries etc. Lead is lead, there's no bad lead or good lead, just depends what form it comes in that then impacts how bioavailable it is. If it's bonded in minerals then it can't get out of that bind so if it is ingested, it just passes through your body.

John asked what the results were from the soil on this mine's site and whether the lead was bonded with minerals.

Jackie advised that she doesn't have data for this site, but for many mineralised areas, it tends to be low bioavailability.

Q25. Mick Boller noted that there was a westerly wind blowing during the site visit, and asked what monitoring is being undertaken to the East of the site.

A25. Question taken on notice for Rob Corkery to respond.

Q26. Sonia Christie asked whether dust suppression chemicals are being looked into.

A26. Jackie advised that if Bowdens proposes to use chemicals, then certainly that will be looked at as part of the EIS, but usually it's just water used. Chemicals wouldn't be able to be used unless it's approved by the various regulatory bodies.

Q27. Sonia Christie asked whether they are also considering noise fatigue.

A27. In NSW noise guidelines are set by WHO Noise Guidelines.

Sonia commented that WHO set a baseline on 30-35 dB(A), but that Lue sits at a level of 10 dB(A) on a normal day.

Q28. Tom Combes noted that Jackie had stated no government would allow anything to happen that caused adverse health risks, but clarified that that's provided that you accurately assess what form the lead is, what the risk is, mitigation techniques etc.

A28. Jackie advised that that is correct. Usually what is produced identifies what the exposures are, and what the mitigation measures are, and provides recommendations on what more needs to be done.

Q29. Sonia Christie asked what health impacts are for older people (40+).

A29. Jackie advised that the most sensitive health effects for adults is on blood pressure, which occurs not far above 10 micrograms/decilitre. Exposures higher than that can lead to kidney problems and neurological problems. Blood pressure is a chronic effect, so may be noticed within 1 year of exposure where blood lead levels are over 10 micrograms/decilitre.

The Chair thanked Jackie for her presentation, then invited Rob Corkery to speak to the Committee on the overall EIS process and answer general questions.

Rob Corkery circulated a hand out addressing questions on notice from Meeting 2. He advised that wind monitoring locations marked on the slide have been collecting data since 2012, and that emphasis on the wind is paramount.

Rob advised that as a result of questions from the last CCC meeting, the air quality consultant actually went back to the data file, and was able to tell us that at the time of the previous meeting, the wind speed on the Bowdens site was about 27km/h, whereas in Lue village was about 23km/h. The air quality consultant has developed a Meteorological Data File and determined the wind speed at the top of Bingham Hill would've been about 50-55 km/h, which matches to what was experienced on the day. Hence, we are confident that data file is accurate.

Rob advised the committee that information and questions from the CCC are/will be provided to specialist consulting team, as are all

Hand out to be circulated. questions from community consultation days, and they are all captured in the EIS process, if they are relevant.

Referring to Mick Boller's question on monitoring locations east of the Bowdens site (Q25), Rob advised that one site is located on the Stekhoven property (BDG06), the property previously owned by Ken Watson and Virginia King (property now owned by SVL) (BDG02) and the property owned by Gary Price (BDG09). Each of these dust monitoring locations are displayed on Figure 3 in the handout.

Q30. Tom Combes asked about the noise monitoring data and that no noise monitoring had been done on his property.

A30. Rob noted that the amount of noise monitoring that has been done for this project is substantial. There's been monitoring done for a large amount of time which provides a large amount of information. Rob noted that noise monitoring on Tom Combes' property is not appropriate given the noise generated on the property.

Q31. The Chair asked Rob to run through the EIS process.

A31. Rob stated that there is a need to understand the environment that the mine is proposed within. We've coordinated many studies on noise, air quality, visibility, wind, transport, etc. All those studies create a series of constraints, which are considered in the design of the project. Within a matter of weeks, we'll have a draft mine design, which will then allow us to review the design. It is likely that when reviewing the detail of the design, there may be certain aspects that need to be tweaked with additional mitigation measures included.

Once the project description is finalised, we will circulate that to the DPE, and the council. We endeavour to keep them informed about what's included in the design and what's changed.

Specialist consultants will then undertake their studies, which will take anywhere between 5-14 weeks as they go through each of their components. A number of the studies will involve assessments at various stages throughout the life of the mine. For example, equipment on the surface is much louder than equipment 100m down. We will be able to predict impacts at all these various stages. In any case, even when the noise is predicted at its worst, it still needs to be within the standards.

All assessments from the specialist consultants will be provided to R W Corkery & Co. P/L, as there's often interrelationships that need to be taken into account. We might find there are inconsistencies. For example, a noise barrier put in a location that from a visual standard may be a problem.

From that stage, we will proceed to complete the EIS for Bowdens to review. Bowdens also proposes that the EIS will also be subject to a legal review.

We know the community is very keen to have feedback prior to EIS being lodged. It's an extra step, but we realise that it's important to have trust that what is been done is robust. Once the key specialist reports are finalised to their draft stage, the intent is that there will be a number of presentations to the local community, including from Jackie with lead results. [It is envisaged an open forum would be convened over a couple of days with the key consultants – similar to the forum held on 7 May 2017.] The intention is to give people the opportunity to quiz specialists and essentially play devil's advocate and really interrogate the draft assessments, as there may be more things that perhaps local knowledge makes us aware that has not been taken into account.
We would then finalise EIS, send it back to the Department of Planning,
for the Department to confirm it is suitable for exhibition.

Q32. Sonia Christie asked about power supply to the site.

A32. Rob advised this won't be considered as part of the EIS. It will be subject to a separate application to the relevant energy provider for a separate assessment under Part 5 of the EP&A Act.

Q33. Mick Boller asked when presentations to the community are expected to occur.

A33. Rob advised that they will probably commence around July/August at this stage. Blake will liaise with the local community and advise with plenty of notice. It will be intended as a 2 way process.

Tony McClure advised that the Feasibility Study will be a matter of weeks away, which is the technical and economic assessment. This then feeds into the Project Description for the EIS. Currently we're in iteration 11 or 12 of the optimisation process, which has dictated the design of the mine. The Project Description will then be reviewed by the various specialist consultants to assess the potential impacts of the Project and identify if there are any other mitigation measures required to achieve acceptable environmental outcomes.

John Lydiard asked whether by those timeframes the EIS will be reviewed and submitted by August.

Rob advised it will be after August. The technical studies will hopefully be completed by August 2018. One of the longest studies is the social impact study, which will take longer and take into account all the technical assessments. We're definitely talking later than August.

Q34. Tom Combes asked whether the feedback from specialists will change the mine plan and economic feasibility.

A34. Tony McClure advised that the belief is that any changes will be minimal given how much work has been done already. Keith Perrett stated the changes are expected to be more tweaks than major.

Q35. Bradley Bliss asked whether the water supply has been confirmed yet.

A35. Rob advised that no it hasn't been finalised.

Tom Combes asked whether a decision on water supply would impact the economic feasibility. Tony McClure commented that they have modelled for the top of the cost bracket. 6. Meeting Dates for the rest of 2018

Tony McClure suggested waiting for further details around EIS
timeframe before locking in future meeting dates.Chair to contact all
members in
the coming months to discuss future meetings.

7. Agenda Items for Meeting 4

The Chair advised that he would be calling or meeting with members in the coming months to discuss future meetings.

8. Feedback from the Community

The Chair suggested that committee membership be listed on Bowdens
Silver website, and the Committee agreed.> Bowdens to update
website.

	Tony McClure gave a presentation outlining some of the community programs Bowdens Silver have in place, including education and training. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes. Bowdens Silver provides a lot of initiatives with local schools and outside of that, our site is an educational learning centre. We have a PhD student, master students, and undergrad students using the site, primarily out of UNSW, with some initiatives with Macquarie University.	
	Bowdens are looking to expand on that investment and will have a community investment fund in place.	
	Bowdens are seeking ideas and seeking feedback from the CCC to prioritise relevant community based ideas.	 CCC members to provide feedback to
	It was agreed that copies of all presentations would be circulated and attached to minutes.	Bowdens.
9.	CLOSE MEETING	
	The Chair thanked Committee members for attending and their positive participation and contributions.	

Meeting:	Bowdens Silver Project CCC - Meeting 4
Date: Tuesday, 14 August 2018	
Location:	Mid-Western Regional Council, 86 Market Street, Mudgee
Time:	5.00 – 7.00 PM

Attendees						
Mr Darryl Watkins (Independent Chair)	Mr Marc Snape (Minute Taker)					
Mr Mick Boller (Lue Action Group)	Mr Keith Perrett (Silver Mines Ltd)					
Mr Bradley Robert Bliss J.P. (Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation)	Mr Tom Combes (Member)					
Ms Sally Dryburgh (Member)	Mr John Lydiard (Member)					
Mr Blake Hjorth (Bowdens Silver)	Mr Anthony (Tony) McClure (Silver Mines Ltd)					
Mr Neville Bergin (Neville Bergin & Associates Pty Ltd)						
Apologies						
Mr James Armitage (Member)	Ms Jane Munro (Bowdens Silver Pty Limited)					
Ms Sonia Christie (Member)	Mr John O'Neill (Mid-Western Regional Council)					

Sub	ject	Actions
1.	Welcome & Introduction Bradley Bliss delivered Welcome to Country.	 No actions.
2.	Apologies The Chair noted apologies from James Armitage, Sonia Christie, Cr John O'Neill, and Jane Munro.	 No actions.
3.	Minutes and Actions of previous meeting (DW) Minutes from Meeting 3 were all approved. The Chair reminded Committee members to advise any changes to pecuniary interests.	 No actions.
4.	Feasibility Study Briefing (Bowdens) Neville Bergin gave a presentation on the Feasibility Study. Neville advised his background is in Mining Engineering, and worked in a range of mining roles in a very broad career. He has been involved in several feasibility studies and implementations. His relevant project experience includes Waihi Gold Mine and Rosebery Mine. At Waihi Mine, Neville was the first mine superintendent. This project demonstrated that you can have a mine in the middle of town. Tasmania's Rosebery Mine was predominantly a zinc mine but there was also lead (along with silver, copper, and gold). Neville advised that his kids were sent to school within 1 km of the tailings dam. The operator was very conscious of blood levels in both the community and the workforce. Neville noted that no issues arose in relation to elevated blood lead levels. Proper protocols were introduced and	

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	followed, such as keeping everything on site, and washing dirty overalls on site to prevent possible lead transfer.	
	Neville outlined three stages of studies culminating in the Feasibility Study. A scoping study is "what could it be", outlining all different options for the project. A pre-feasibility study is "what should it be", honing in on the option to pursue in the feasibility study. A feasibility study is "what will it be", the option that is selected to pursue. The purpose is to demonstrate both technical feasibility and economic viability of a project.	
	Mr Bergin began going into the geotechnical details from the feasibility study. An open cut in mining is essentially a cone in the ground – how steep or flat those walls are depends on the geological makeup of the ground. There is nothing from a geotechnical perspective that is concerning about this pit. The slope can be reasonably steep – overall angle is approximately 45 degrees.	
	In terms of mine design, Neville advised it is fairly standard. The same design parameters exist on many mines around Australia. Neville also noted that mine design is based on the fleet of vehicles and equipment that will be used, which determines factors such as ramp width.	
	There is an optimisation process that needs to be considered. This includes mining costs, metal costs, processing costs, and other costs. The purpose of this optimisation process is to achieve the "best" design relative to a set of criteria or constraints.	
	96% of the Ore Reserve is in the "proved" category. The project is fortunate that it has had a significant amount of test work done previously. The team undertook some confirmatory metallurgical test work to confirm those earlier tests. He also advised that the water needs to be imported for the project, as the site is unable to provide sufficient water for the projects operation. This would require the development of a pipeline from the Ulan coalfields sitting primarily in public road easements.	
	Neville noted that there is a lot of interest in purchasing the silver/lead concentrate and zinc concentrate, and indicative terms have been provided that were used in the optimisation model. Regarding transport, it is anticipated that the silver/lead concentrate will go to Port Pirie (first to Parkes by road, then rail to Port Pirie). The zinc concentrate will be transported by road to Port Botany.	
	During the EIS approval process, the company will approach various engineering companies before going to tender. This will take about four months before an engineer is appointed. The time from award of contract to commissioning of the processing plant would be approximately eighteen months. Mr Bergin also advised that if they can get the work done locally during construction, then it will be.	
	The Chair thanked Neville for the presentation. A copy of Mr Bergin's presentation is available on the Bowdens Silver website.	
	The Chair then asked for questions from the Committee.	
5.	Q & A and Discussion	
	Q1. John Lydiard asked for clarification around the alternative to cyanide mentioned in the presentation.	
	A1. Mr Bergin advised there were three alternatives looked at. SMBS (sodium meta bisulphite), which didn't work in this case, sodium sulphite, and sodium sulphide. Sodium sulphide was the most promising, with similar lead/zinc grades but it failed on silver recovery. The conclusion was that the mine cannot operate unless cyanide is	

used. Mr Bergin noted that there will be low levels of cyanide used which poses no risk.		
Q2. John Lydiard asked regarding the tailings dam design, whether it fills from the bottom or fills from the top?		
A2. Neville Bergin advised that the design is called "Down Valley deposition". The tailings are discharged at the top of the valley. The dam essentially becomes a water storage dam.		
Q3. Bradley Robert Bliss asked a question regarding the pipeline from Ulan. It was stated that the pipeline will be 56km and mostly in public road easement, but that the distance would be more like 86km.		
A3. Blake Hjorth advised that the pipeline wouldn't be entirely on public roads, for example it wouldn't go the entire way along Lue Road.		
Bradley also advised that the farms near Ulan are already requesting further water discharges from the mine as their bores have dropped. There is high salinity in the water at the moment according to a report from a couple of community meetings.		
Q4 . Tom Combes confirmed that the feasibility study used \$17.25/ounce sustaining cost. Tom asked what the silver price is currently?		
A4. Neville Bergin advised the silver price is approximately \$21/ounce. The price used in the feasibility study has been intentionally set at a conservative price.		
Q5 . Tom Combes asked what the council contribution to the road and infrastructure would be, (i.e. a Voluntary Planning Agreement).		
A5 . Tony McClure advised that there is an assessment of that cost in the financial model, but that will be wrapped into General & Administrative costs. There is provision for those costs, however we are yet to complete those negotiations with council. With that said, we have a rough idea where it will be landing.		
Q6. Tom Combes asked about dewatering, and how the water level decreases. Can you please explain why it does that?		
A6. Neville Bergin advised that this is due to seepage flow occurring.		
Q7. Tom Combes noted that there seems to be insufficient water on site, and asked what the requirement of the site is? What will be needed over and above the 2ML per day figure?		
A7. Neville Bergin advised that the 2ML per day is how much water will seep into the pit. Neville took this question on notice.	>	Bowdens to Respond. Question on Notice.
Q8. John Lydiard asked regarding employment figures, whether the numbers in the feasibility study are only mine employees or whether they include all contractors as well?		
A8. Neville Bergin advised that the figure is overall employees of the mine, so on top of that there may be contract workers, or for example contractors for the washing of overalls etc. Mostly ancillary support. Another example could be the processing plant, which will need to shut down the mills occasionally. Specialist contractors will need to be brought in to do that work. The employment numbers don't include those jobs.		
Tony McClure advised there is a 2 x job multiplier – for every job created, 2 jobs are created in local services and contractors.		
Q9. The Chair asked whether there are funds set aside for rehabilitation at the end of the mine, and whether these details will be part of the EIS?		
A9. Neville Bergin advised that there are funds set aside, and yes it will be part of the EIS.		

	The Chair suggested that there should be one more meeting in 2018, and confirmed with the committee that they were comfortable with the	>	Chair to contact all members.
6.	Meeting Dates for the rest of 2018		
	Keith Perrett added that the impact on Lue Village will be extremely minimal. But the specific questions (from Sonia Christie) was whether we are buying up land because we believe there will be an impact. The answer at this stage is no, but we are having ongoing discussions on an individual basis.		
	A14. Tony McClure advised that there are of course ongoing discussions with people who have specific concerns, but the Bowdens team is free and open to discuss with anyone. If anyone has specific concerns, please recommend them to come up and have a discussion with our team.		
	Q14. Tom Combes noted there has been a lot of discussion within the community about the impact the lack of certainty around the project is having in the community. The EIS date keeps going forward, which comes with uncertainty of whether the project will get off the ground, whether individual properties will be impacted, and the uncertainty of the company not engaging in a program of "buying or not buying". There is a lot of uncertainty out there and people are nervous.		
	A13. Tony McClure advised that he does not think there will be any relevance in that matter to the town of Lue directly.		
	A13. Keith Perrett advised that at this stage, there are no active arrangements in place. The company has purchased land in the infrastructure footprint. There's no blanket yes or no. But at this stage there's no consideration of purchases due to any of those factors mentioned in Sonia's question at this stage. Obviously as the process and the EIS continues, there will be more understanding of some of this information.		
	Q13. Tom Combes sought confirmation that there is no plan from the company to buy or compensate anyone that's impacted by the mine.		
	As the response to question 1 from Sonia was 'No', questions 2 and 3 were deemed not relevant.		
	A12. Tony McClure advised that the mine site infrastructure area needs to be dealt with from a freehold point of view. Bowdens have various option agreements, and owns a considerable amount of freehold land directly. Option agreements have been put in place over time as required. In Silver Mines Limited's tenure of the project, have probably doubled our footprint, primarily driven by location of infrastructure. The proponent is not actually actively acquiring further land acquisitions with the community outside of the infrastructure footprint. The attachments provided by Sonia were recent agreements, and were disclosed on Silver Mines Limited's accounts.		
	Q12. Is SVL buying property that is deemed to be impacted by the mine should it ever become operational?		
	The Chair then read out three questions on behalf of CCC Member Sonia Christie, who was unable to attend the meeting.		Question on Notice.
	road easements, whether that will come under the Commonwealth EPBC Act? A11. This question was taken on notice.	>	Bowdens to respond.
	A10. Tony McClure advised that the timeframe is roughly end of year, and yes the presentation will be posted on the website.Q11. The Chair asked in relation to the water pipeline going along the		
	Q10. The Chair asked about whether there is a timeline on the EIS, and confirmed that the presentation from the meeting will be available on the website?		

	The committee agreed to this approach. The Chair suggested it would be beneficial for the committee to		Chair to liaise with
	receive a briefing on the EIS prior to it being lodged.		Bowdens on agenda.
7.	Agenda Items for Meeting 5		
	The Chair suggested that Meeting 5 focus on the EIS. Bradley Bliss requested the agenda address the Aboriginal archaeology of the site, referring to Dr Matt Cupper who did an overview. Brad reflected on previous surveys that have been undertaken on the land, and noted that the Wellington Valley Wiradjuri Aboriginal Corporation has never seen any report in relation to the surveys. Usually the Corporation would see a survey undertaken, and within two months a report would be presented to comment on as the local community. The process usually is that a		Chair to liaise with Bowdens on agenda.
	company undertakes a survey, drafts a report to the local Aboriginal community, the community makes a comment, which then goes into the draft, and back to proponent.	>	Chair to liaise with Bowdens on agenda.
	Keith Perrett advised that it is his understanding that once the EIS is lodged, it's a public document.		
	The 60 day consultation period will not be during the December/January holiday period. Regardless of when the EIS is lodged, consultation will start around end of January/beginning of February.		
	The committee asked for confirmation of when the 60 days of public consultation will starts, whether the Department does an initial assessment before being on public display, and if the EIS is lodged towards end of December (for example), when will public consultation start? The Chair advised he would follow up with the Department and advise the committee.	~	Chair to speak with Department.
	Keith Perrett advised that the expectation is that the EIS will be a thorough document, and no doubt the Department will review.		
	The Chair suggested inviting Rob Corkery to discuss issues found, and how they dealt with them, but also talk about the planning to communicate the details to the community etc.		Chair to liaise with Bowdens on agenda.
8.	Feedback from the Community		
	The Chair asked the committee for any suggestions on how this group could better communicate or engage within the community.		
	Blake Hjorth states we've been doing the meetings and minutes, a new community newsletter that went out recently (and is published regularly), and updated information on the website.		
	Blake suggested that if committee members are hearing questions that as a CCC member they cannot answer, it is good to either guide community members to the website, or to suggest they get in touch directly.		
	Mick Boller advised the Lue Action Group is very happy with how the minutes have been presented.		
	Mick Boller raised a dust incident that was discussed in previous CCC meetings, with a report on dust raising from a drill.		
	Tony McClure advised that following investigations, it was confirmed that drills were operating on the day of this reported incident, but notes that the drill logs report nothing out of the ordinary happened that day.		

	Mick suggested the possibility that either the drilling operators omitted dust escaping from the drill rig, or that dust escaping is a common occurrence and we have to put up with that.		
	Tony McClure noted that there was no reporting from the driller to the company in that regard. Tony advised that a critical part of a drilling contract with a company is a comprehensive set of guidelines on how they conduct their business. Bowdens have used drilling companies for a number of years and had no complaints from the community outside of this incident. Tony noted that the image provided to the company is not conclusive, and could have been any number of incidents, such as dust from a truck. Tom Combes confirmed the dust was from a drill rig as he could see through a telescopic sight.		
	The Chair asked whether the incident was discussed with the drilling company.		
	Tony McClure advised that it was, but that no incident was recorded on that date.		
	Blake Hjorth advised that after the incident was raised in the CCC meeting, Tom Combes provided the photo to Bowdens. Scott Munro went back to the people that were working that day, and went back to the log book. Nothing was in the log that mentions drilling suppression went down or anything along those lines.		
	The Chair advised he would further discuss this with Bowdens.	\succ	The Chair to discuss
	Mick Boller noted that Rob Corkery was asked previously about testing sites to the east. They advised that one of those sites was a historic site. Corkery also mentioned a number of times about water testing BSW134 located east of Bowdens owned land. Mick requested confirmation of whose land that is on.		with Bowdens.
	Blake Hjorth advised it is Gary Price's land.		
	Tony McClure advised that on all the monitoring sites, there is a huge amount of historical monitoring data. The data from these sites remains valid, and the data is captured as part of the background data.		
	Tom Combes asked how far back the data goes. Tony advised that first monitoring was from approximately eight years ago. Tony notes historical data is critically important for establishing a baseline.		
	Mick Boller commented that he had previously provided historical data from a previous owner's report showing distance from the pit to houses. Keith Perrett advised that the Chair of the previous committee had ruled that she didn't want personal information provided without individuals being present. Further the mine design has altered.		
	Mick Boller confirmed on behalf of a community member that the lead expert providing evidence in the EIS will be Jackie Wright. Tony McClure confirmed that was correct.		
9.	CLOSE MEETING		
	Meeting closed at 6.45PM		

Appendix	C :	Questions	on	Notice	Register
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Meeting	Question	CCC Member	Responsibility	Status	Response
Meeting 1	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.
Meeting 1	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.
Meeting 1	Question re: previously identified Aboriginal sites. On the drive in to the homestead, there are rocks in the paddock	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"

Meeting	Question	CCC Member	Responsibility	Status	Response
	to the right - has that been fenced off?				and is only accessed for water monitoring purposes along existing tracks. Refer to Attachment 1.
Meeting 1	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.
Meeting 2	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 teh 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 zince and 80,000 tonnes of lead.
Meeting 2	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.
Meeting 2	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

Meeting	Question	CCC Member	Responsibility	Status	Response
					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.
Meeting 2	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.
Meeting 2	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.
Meeting 2	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 various environmental assessments undertaken by the specialist consultant team.
Meeting 2	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.

Meeting	Question	CCC Member	Responsibility	Status	Response
Meeting 2	Question 21 re: water that will be held on site, and impact on Lawsons Creek.	John Lydiard	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	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:WATER SUPPLYAs 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 601 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.STORMWATER RUNOFFThe 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 and lower the volumes of water requiring management on the Mine Site, thus lowering the risk of discharging potentia

Meeting	Question	CCC Member	Responsibility	Status	Response
Meeting 3	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.
Meeting 3	Question 12: How many private bores are being monitored?	Mick Boller	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	There are currently 21 private bores being tested.
Meeting 4	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	 The water requirements of the various components of the operation are as follows: 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 varying dependent upon climate and weather. Approximately 110 ML per annum will be required.
Meeting 4	Question 11. Will the water pipeline positioned along road easements come under the Commonwealth EPBC Act?	Darryl Watkins	Bowdens Silver Pty Limited	Finalised	Yes.

CCC 2018 Annual Survey

Q1 Please provide your name and organisation (This is for security reasons only. Your feedback will not be publicly attributed to you).

Q2 To what extent do you agree with the following statements (Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strongly Disagree):

- 1. Community members of the CCC appropriately represent the interests of the local community
- 2. Stakeholder group members of the CCC appropriately represent the interests of the local community
- 3. The CCC promotes a culture of information sharing between Bowdens Silver, Mid-West Regional Council, the local community and other stakeholder groups
- 4. Bowdens Silver effectively responds to matters raised by the community
- 5. The CCC provides feedback from the community to Bowdens Silver
- 6. The CCC effectively communicate project information to the broader community

Q3 Overall, how effective is the CCC in establishing good working relationships between Bowdens Silver, the local community, stakeholder groups and Council?

Q4 How satisfied are you with the frequency of CCC meetings?

Q5 If unsatisfied, how frequently would you prefer CCC meetings to be held?

Q6 Are you satisfied with how the CCC meetings are run?

Q7 Are you satisfied with how the CCC minutes are presented?

Q8 Are you satisfied with the quality of guest speakers/experts that have been provided to brief the CCC?

Q9 Is there a particular issue that you feel should be the committee's focus for the next 12 month period?

Q10 Have you been involved in any previous Consultative Committees linked to the Silver Mine project?

Q11 If yes, how does your experience on the current Bowdens Silver Project Community Consultative Committee compare with past committees?

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