

Kingsgate News

Bowdens Silver Project – Community Newsletter

May 2015 – Issue 3

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Message from the Executive Chairman

WE HERE AT KINGSGATE see this community newsletter as playing a pivotal role in our communications with residents living in the area surrounding the *Bowdens Silver Project*.

It is a priority for our company to play an important role in the life of your community. The positive outcomes of a durable and strong partnership will

benefit everyone: developing a dynamic community and making this area in the heart of the Mid-Western region a central point for economic growth.

On behalf of the Kingsgate Board, I hope you enjoy this new edition of Kingsgate News.

Ross Smyth-Kirk

Environmental Impact Statement

IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment issued Kingsgate Bowdens with a revised set of Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (formerly DGRs now SEARs) that clearly articulate what is required in order to lodge an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

Kingsgate is well advanced on the preparation of the EIS, and work is continuing to focus on some of the larger elements such as groundwater and power supply options. As the EIS nears completion Kingsgate will provide an opportunity to discuss key elements of the EIS with the local community.

More information on EIS requirements can be found at: www.planning.nsw.gov.au



Environmental Update

Kingsgate is committed to striving towards best standards for environmental management and to continually improve its environmental performance.

Monitoring

Environmental monitoring has continued on site, covering most relevant aspects. Surface water quality and groundwater level monitoring continues monthly with comprehensive water quality analyses undertaken every quarter. Twenty seven surface sites and up to fifty water bores are monitored monthly. Two pump tests were conducted successfully in December 2014 that have greatly improved our understanding of the long term characteristics of the fractured rock aquifers near the proposed mine site. This information will be used in the modelling of the aquifer. Two stream gauging stations are continuously recording water level and flow rates in Hawkins Creek.

This data has reflected the dry seasons that have occurred in the past few years, with falls in water levels within most bores. A number of the surface

water measurement sites have dried up and there has been a lack of flow at the upstream gauging station and reduced flow at the lower station compared to similar times in the previous year. Air quality monitoring at eleven sites and the two weather / continuous airborne dust concentration stations continue to operate.

Access to weather information

Access to weather information has been arranged so that the local community can also access the weather station data. Details of the website are given below to easily access the data measured in your area.

www.teledata.net.au/lue

The website is available anytime for 24 hour access by the community.



Community Update

Engagement Plan

Kingsgate recently submitted its Community Engagement Plan to the NSW Government to outline our upcoming participation in the Mudgee/Lue area; as well as our commitment to inform and consult with the community on the Bowdens Silver Project.

Several events and meetings will be organised during the next few months in order to re-establish and strengthen the relationship between the company and the community living around the Bowdens Silver Project. We are pleased to be able to release a list of actions planned by Kingsgate and corresponding approximate dates:

- › Community Newsletter (sent in line with Kingsgate's Quarterly Reports)
- › Meeting with the Lue Action Group (June/July 2015)
- › Bowdens Site Tour – Open Day (October 2015)
- › Project Site Tours (Anytime during 2015/2016)
- › Satisfaction Survey (August/September 2015).

The exact days for these events will be advised at a later date.

Community Involvement and Sponsorship

During 2015, Kingsgate will carry on its financial participation in special events promoting tourism and culture in the region.

The following organisations are already beneficiaries of Kingsgate's support:

- › The Annual Kandos Bob Marley Festival
- › Lue Bush Fire Brigade
- › The Kandos Annual Hoedown Festival.

Our involvement in the Lue Rural Fire Service is an important element of our community plan and we will continue to provide support for this important service.

Kingsgate aims to provide support for local projects related to the community, health, education and the environment. If you know of a worthwhile project, we encourage you to contact us with further information.

Website

Kingsgate will continually update its website (www.kingsgate.com.au) to reflect the current situation of the Bowdens Silver Project guaranteeing the transparency of our activities.



Meet our team

Name:
Adrien Dumont

Position at Kingsgate:
Business Support Officer

Tell us something about yourself:
I am originally from France. I have a BA in Psychology. I have lived in Australia for more than two years and I have also lived in Sweden.

Property Management

Current Situation

We are currently utilising the Bowdens property and other properties purchased over the past few years for agricultural purposes, with plans to expand our cattle herd and sheep flock into the future. During this period, the current management strategy is to improve pasture and sow small areas of forage crops to produce quality fat lambs and cattle for sale in local markets through support from local livestock agents. Along with sale of livestock, we will continue to improve infrastructure on our land, including upgrades to fencing, livestock handling and farming equipment, while supporting local business through purchase of required supplies through local vendors and employment of local community members to support our agricultural enterprise, where possible.

Local Support

Kingsgate Bowdens has always strived to support the local community wherever possible, through employment of local people and supporting local businesses.

In addition, an agistment agreement was recently signed with a local livestock owner, giving access to a portion of Kingsgate's land for the purposes of running sheep and cattle.

Kingsgate is always interested to hear from community members regarding possible projects that we can support and provide assistance for, please do not hesitate to contact us and let us know about your project.



If you also require assistance, Bowdens Silver Project staff and facilities are available to assist where ever possible, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Smith, our Senior Geologist on the project.

“When strangers start acting like neighbours ... communities are re-invigorated.” Ralph Nader

For further information

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