

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 28 January 2022


This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the NSW Resources Regulator: phone 1300 814 609 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At a glance

High level summary of emerging trends and our recommendations to operators.

| TYPE | NUMBER |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Reportable incident total | 23 |
| Summarised incident total | 2 |

Summarised incidents

| INCIDENT TYPE | SUMMARY | COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY |
|--|---|--|
| Dangerous incident IncNot0041475 Open cut coal Fire or explosion  | <p>A blast hole prematurely detonated while preparing for a shot. There were eight personnel on foot and an additional three within machinery on the pattern.</p> <p>The minimum distance between the hole and personnel was about 100m. The shot hole was loaded on the day of the incident and recorded at 34-degree Celsius. One hour after the hole was loaded with emulsion, it prematurely detonated.</p> | <p>This incident is under investigation and further information may be published later. Mine operators must have procedures when loading hot and reactive ground. Procedures must include timeliness of loading and firing and the control of persons on the shot. Adequate supervision must be in place to ensure compliance to shot firing procedures.</p> |



Dangerous incident
IncNot0041247
Underground
metals

A Jumbo offsider suffered an electric shock while in contact with both the Jumbo and the rib mesh. The offsider suffered the shock when the electrical supply to the machine was restored after moving the Jumbo forward.

The electrical engineering control plan for a mine must set out the control measures to manage risks to health and safety from electricity at each mine. When developing the control plan all sources of electrical sources need to be considered including induced and static charge.

Refer to Safety Bulletin [SB20-03 Electric shocks in the mining industry](#)

Other publications of interest

The incidents are included for your review. The NSW Resources Regulator does not endorse the findings or recommendations of these incidents. It is your legal duty to exercise due diligence to ensure the business complies with its work health and safety obligations.

| PUBLICATION | ISSUE/TOPIC |
|-------------------|---|
| | National (other, non-fatal) |
| DMIRS (WA) | Damaged excavator recoil spring fragment became projectile – Significant Incident Report #289 In February 2021, a damaged recoil spring assembly for an excavator had been removed from the track arrangement and stored outside a heavy mobile plant workshop. The following morning, a fragment of the spring separated while under |

compression and travelled approximately 28 metres across the yard and through a workshop wall, coming to rest in a walkway beside a workbench.

[Details](#)

DMIRS (WA)

Company fined after worker was seriously injured

BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd was fined \$125,000 after a contractor suffered a lacerated artery from being struck in the neck by a metal shard in September 2017.

[Details](#)

**Resources Safety
and Health,
Queensland
(Coal)**

Managing exposure to heat in surface coal mines and surface areas of underground coal mines – Guidance note QGN32

The purpose of this guidance note is to provide practical guidance to coal mine operators, employers and employees about how to manage heat exposure at open cut coal mines and on surface areas of underground coal mines, in order to prevent heat-related illness.

[Details](#)

Note: While the majority of incidents are reported and recorded within a week of the event, some are notified outside this time period. The incidents in this report therefore have not necessarily occurred in a one-week period. All newly recorded incidents, whatever the incident date, are reviewed by the Chief Inspector and senior staff each week. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our annual performance measures reports.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

CM9 reference RDOC22/12375

Mine safety reference ISR22-04

Date published 9 February 2022

Approved by Deputy Chief Inspector
Office of the Chief Inspector