

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 2 September 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	37
Summarised incident total	2

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0042890 Underground metals mines Roads or other vehicle operating areas	An articulated dump truck was reversing into an underground stockpile when the rear, right wheel ran up the wall, causing the loaded tub to roll over. The operator's cabin remained upright. The truck operator was not injured. This was the first time the worker had unloaded at this stockpile.	The stability of articulated vehicles is a known risk that needs to be managed at mines, particularly at unloading points and stockpiles. Mine operators should review systems of work for the operation of mobile plant, specifically addressing the training, familiarisation, assessment and ongoing maintenance of competency of plant operators. Refer to: Safety Bulletin SB18-07 Safe systems of work for mobile plant





Dangerous incident
IncNot0042892
Underground
metals mine
Fire or explosion



Two underground workers retreated to a refuge chamber after they smelled smoke. Emergency procedures were initiated and all workers who were underground moved to refuge chambers. The fire crew, under breathing apparatus, inspected the mine but were unable to locate a fire. An investigation identified that an elevated work platform (EWP) had a large oil leak. The workers involved in the task proceeded to move the EWP, which started smoking from the oil. The workers had not communicated the issue with control or the other 2 workers in the area.

When the actions of workers may affect other workers, they must clearly communicate the task and any potential impacts. This is vital in underground environments where ventilation circuits, access and egress and mine service impact can affect large numbers of workers. Supervisors and ESO/control room.



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
International (other, non-fatal)	
WorkSafe NZ	<p>On 26 July 2022, an articulated dump truck was in the process of dumping a load of overburden on a tip when the ground underneath the truck gave way. The truck operator was approaching an edge bund when the failure occurred. The truck and flowing ground material cascaded to the quarry floor below. The cab of the truck rolled over. The operator was wearing a seatbelt and was not seriously injured. The tip edge was virgin ground that became saturated following abnormally high rainfall.</p> <p>Details</p>
National (fatal)	
Resources Safety & Health Queensland	<p>An experienced rig manager conducting a routine rig-up at an unfamiliar site, lost control of the radiator chute and suffered a finger crush injury. The worker was filling in as a rig manager, working on a different rig to his normal work environment. The set-up and layout of the rig was identical to his normal work site, but the equipment used for the task was slightly different. When lowering the radiator chute, the worker temporarily lost control and attempted to slow the momentum of the chute by placing his right hand above the designated handle. This pinched the end of his right middle finger between the chute stopper tab and the wall of the trailer, causing a crush injury.</p> <p>Details</p>

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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