Weekly incident summary

Week ending Friday 18 November 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	51
Summarised incident total	4

Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
Dangerous incident IncNot0043489 Underground coal mine Roads or other vehicle operating areas 	A collision occurred between a dozer and a dump truck. The dump truck operator was a trainee with 6 months' experience. On the operator's fourth load, the dozer operator requested the load be dumped at the start of the dump at 45 degrees. The dozer operator was referring to the opposite end of the dump to where the previous loads were dumped. The truck operator proceeded to the previous point and started to reverse at an angle. The dozer operator started to reverse and noticed the rear of the truck as they were about to collide and tried to call the operator to stop. The truck hit the dozer, damaging the dozer's GPS/aerial.	Higher order risk controls such as equipment segregation and engineering controls must be considered during risk assessments for roads and other vehicle operating areas. Relying on procedural controls such as positive communication and operating procedures should not be used in place of higher order risk controls.

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
		
Dangerous incident IncNot0043455 Underground coal mine	A worker climbed a ladder and was lifting a pump-out line. The worker fell from the ladder and suffered a dislocated elbow and arm fractures. 	Mine operators should review the standards and inspection regime for portable ladders to ensure ladders are maintained in a safe state for use. Workers must be trained in the site standards and in the safe use of ladders.
Dangerous incident IncNot0043442 Underground coal mine	A workgroup was installing a 2.7 tonne motor and gearbox assembly at the top of a reclaimer. The assembly was being lifted in with a slew crane when the job coordinator, not part of the work group approached the task. The coordinator observed the load swinging around and instinctively reached out and grabbed the load. The coordinator's left hand index finger was caught between the load and the structure of the reclaimer, partially amputating the finger.	Workers and supervisors entering work areas during lifting must remain clear of suspended loads. Tag lines must be used to control loads during lifting activities.

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
		
Dangerous incident IncNot0043441 Open cut coal mine	A plate was being removed from the rear axle box hole of a haul truck using an overhead crane. The plate sprang out and hit a nearby worker causing a compound fracture to the lower leg. The worker was transported to hospital by ambulance. The plate, chain and crane hook landed on the deck of the truck. 	This incident is under investigation. Further information may be released in future.

Note: Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this safety alert and are informed of its content and recommendations. This safety alert should be processed in a systematic manner through the mine's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the mine's common area, such as your notice board where appropriate.

Visit our website to:

- find more safety alerts and bulletins
- use our searchable safety database

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If you are required to insert an image, make sure you include a caption. Position the image where it is required, right-click the image and click Insert Caption. Type your caption following the figure number, for position select below image and click OK. See example below.

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 (fatal)
SafeWork Australia	This report provides statistics about people who have died from traumatic injuries through work-related activity. The data presented in this report is based on the information available about the fatalities as at October 2022 when the 2021 dataset was finalised. There were 169 worker fatalities in 2021 due to injuries sustained in the course of a work-related activity. Overall, the number of fatalities has been trending downward since 2007. Details
	National (other, non-fatal)
Resources Safety & Health Queensland	Recent instances of corroded electrical components have resulted in a fire on a mobile processing unit (MPU) and a no-flow condition of an ammonium nitrate emulsion (ANE) pump. Damaged electrical components in the vicinity of ammonium nitrate product were subject to corrosion. Routine maintenance and pre-start inspections failed to identify and replace affected wiring, solenoids, actuators and switches. In one instance, a wiring harness with damaged insulation on a MPU bin lid actuator energized resulting in a small fire. In another incident, an internally corroded actuator energized and started a NAPCO™ ANE pump while the mine reload was unattended. 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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