
Quarterly business activities report

October to December 2022

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Activities at a glance



Key activities

The NSW Resources Regulator's key activities during the quarter included:

- investigation report and animation into a dangerous incident at Attunga Limestone Mine in 2020
- media release on convictions for Macquarie Marble and Lime Pty Ltd and director Christopher Wayne Stokes for breaches of the *Mining Act 1992*
- penalty notices totalling \$29,500 issued in response to non-compliance with the *Mining Act 1992* and the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013*
- record attendance at Electrical Engineering Safety Seminar with 270 industry representatives
- safety alerts on the failing of service brakes on a dump truck, fire suppression systems and dangers of lifting and pulling activities
- report on targeted intervention on ground or strata failure in underground coal mines
- investigation information releases regarding incidents where 3 people were injured in an ATV rollover in a quarry, a worker was seriously injured using a crowbar, a worker's leg was broken during a lifting activity, an outburst occurred during remote mining operations in a colliery, and a loader fell into a stope
- safety guidance on fires on battery powered tools, auxiliary fan operational risk assessments, a recent increase of lifting incidents, wet weather and keeping safe during the festive season
- guidance on recent changes to exploring in exempted areas and for exploring any part of the licence/lease where native title has not been extinguished
- forum held at Lightning Ridge on the enactment of Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022 which affects winding systems, and a guide for winding systems at small gemstone mines
- Resources Regulator portal upgrades for practising certificate holders.

Other publications included:

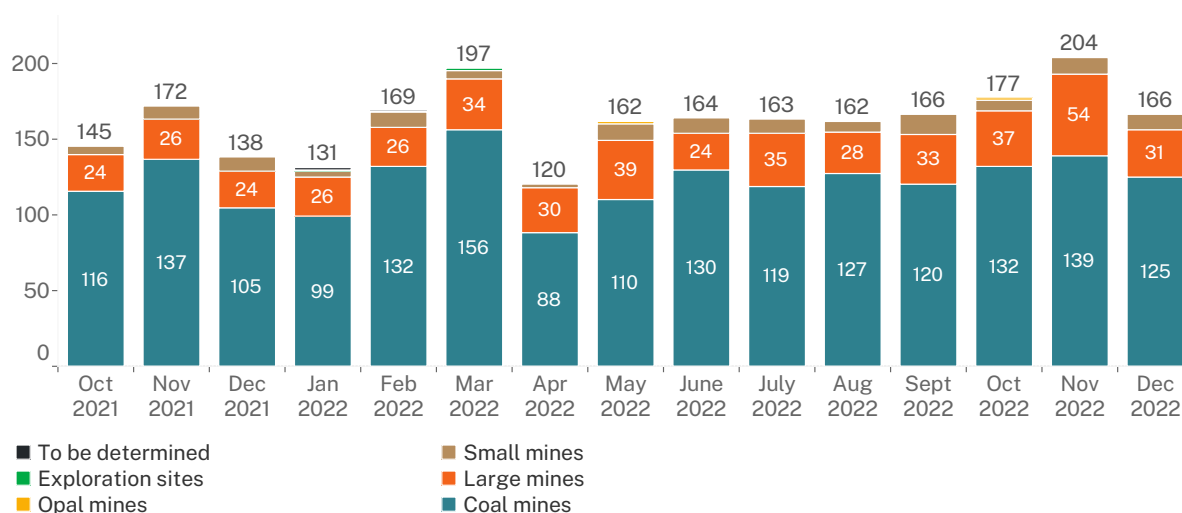
- Compliance Priorities for January to June 2023
- Quarterly safety report – July to September 2022
- Resources Regulator annual report 2021–22
- 11 editions of the Weekly Incident Summary
- 6 editions of Mine Safety News.
- one edition of Mine Rehabilitation News.

For more activities refer to [Mine Safety News](#) and [Mine Rehabilitation News](#).

Work health and safety activities

Safety incident notifications

Safety incidents by date notified and sector



Details of safety incidents where inspectors were deployed this quarter

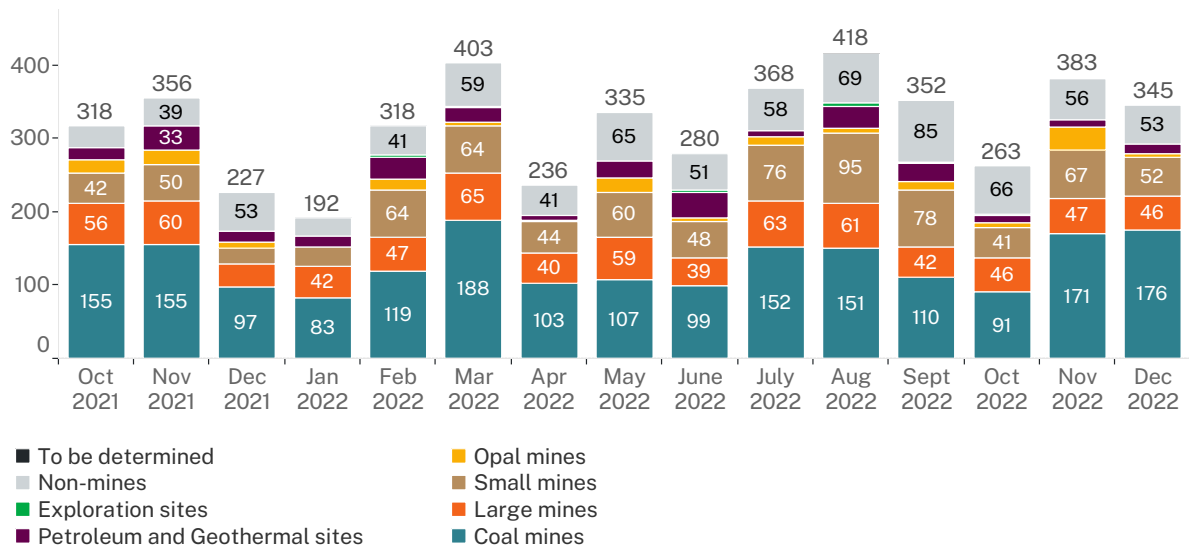
Date notified	Reporting sector	Hazard	Incident
5 October	Coal mines	Fire or explosion	Fire on track dozer and operator could not activate fire suppression system.
7 October	Coal mines	Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants	>100% occupational exposure limit for respirable quartz.
7 October	Coal mines	Ground or strata failure	Slab of coal on the longwall fell and struck a worker on the ankle, knocking them over.
7 October	Coal mines	Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants	>100% occupational exposure limit for respirable quartz.
7 October	Coal mines	Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants	>100% occupational exposure limit for respirable quartz.
17 October	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Worker removing relay pins from longwall recovery face when chain/hook from three-quarter tonne lever block flung up and hit worker in the face.
19 October	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Continuous miner operator struck in face and shoulder by 10 mm chain.
23 October	Coal mines	Roads or other vehicle operating areas	Light vehicle turned over while attempting to swerve around a kangaroo.

Date notified	Reporting sector	Hazard	Incident
24 October	Coal mines	Fire or explosion	A worker reached across a drill to catch a rock when their jumper was caught in the rotating steel, resulting in severe friction burns.
25 October	Coal mines	Ground or strata failure	A slump occurred at the tailings dam while manual dozer preparing the area.
26 October	Small mines – metalliferous, quarries and other gemstones	Ground or strata failure	Articulated dump truck was driving along constructed roadway when the roadway failed. The truck did not roll, however there were concerns for road stability.
31 October	Large mines – metalliferous and quarries	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Worker presented as unwell after working in warm environment, transported to hospital for further assessment and found to be low on electrolytes.
31 October	Opal mines	Ground or strata failure	Ratters took pillars, resulting in one-third of the mine collapsing under road above.
31 October	Small mines – metalliferous, quarries and other gemstones	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	ATV operated by 3 youths rolled over at site, 2 youths treated for injuries at hospital.
1 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Worker sucked onto end of ventilation tube during its installation in a roadway development panel.
5 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	While installing vent tube, worker sucked onto tube striking upper part of their nose.
7 November	Coal mines	Ground or strata failure	Dozer operator noticed movement on dump, section of dump the dozer was on slumped approximately 10 m.
8 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Worker received 20–30 mm laceration to right ear after using crowbar as a lever to remove pin from counterweight of a CAT D11.
9 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Support chain failed on rear wheel group jig and the final drive moved forward, falling from the jig.
11 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Worker welding plates inside hopper impacted by small rocks from a backhoe that had pushed material into the hopper from above.
13 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	A lifting arrangement plate became a projectile and struck a nearby fitter, causing compound fracture to lower leg.
14 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Electrician fell from third top rung of a ladder.
22 November	Coal mines	Roads or other vehicle operating areas	Articulated truck cab rolled onto its side whilst unloading topsoil.
22 November	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Loader was preparing area for drilling, however below windrow was active drill area which was not known to loader operator.
24 November	Coal mines	Explosives control plan	Several pump fitters may have been within 500 m exclusion zone for blast.

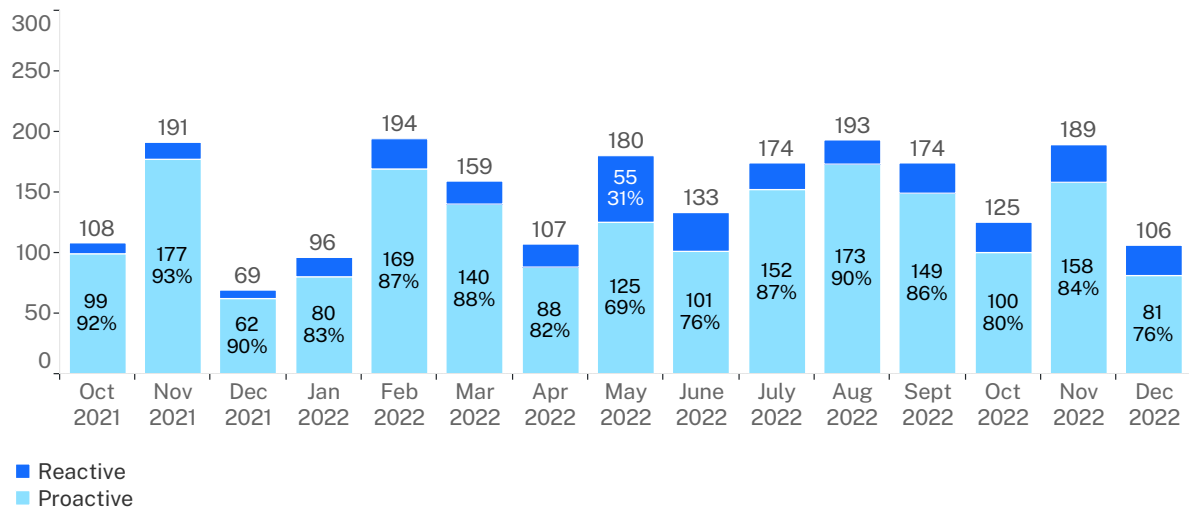
Date notified	Reporting sector	Hazard	Incident
28 November	Large mines – metalliferous and quarries	Ground or strata failure	Development heading was being bogged when off-side wheels of 2900 LHD unit dropped into hold in floor. Overnight the void enlarged and the LHD unit dropped to the floor below.
28 November	Large mines – metalliferous and quarries	Roads or other vehicle operating areas	An IT vehicle was descending a decline and was unable to use brakes, resulting in vehicle contacting wall and stopping.
29 November	Coal mines	Gas outbursts	Gas outburst event while remove mining.
2 December	Coal mines	Ground or strata failure	While advancing roof support, a strata failure occurred. The height of the failure was estimated to be >2.5 m.
4 December	Coal mines	Fire or explosion	Boilermaker received electric shock and burns to hand when hand touched a scissor rail when insulation boot removed from male part of welding lead.
6 December	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Worker lost grip of a pair of Stillsons which struck their right cheek bone.
9 December	Coal mines	Ground or strata failure	Dump failure resulting in rear wheels of truck being sunk.
14 December	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	Lifting gear let go while changing rollers on the drift belt, with the falling belt striking the worker on the back of the neck and shoulder area.
20 December	Coal mines	No related principal mining hazard or principal control plan	When installing a belt centre onto a drive shaft in a vertical position, it moved quickly and the hand of the worker was caught between a flat steel section of the drive shaft and the end of the belt centre.
21 December	Coal mines	Roads or other vehicle operating areas	Operator of dozer reversed onto unoccupied light vehicle.
22 December	Coal mines	Fire or explosion	Frictional ignition event occurred, causing visible flames along the rear of the pan-line.
30 December	Coal mines	Mechanical engineering control plan	Fitter working on Liebherr excavator travel circuit disconnected a pressurised hydraulic hose causing oil to spray in the fitter's face.
Total			37

Safety assessments

Safety assessments conducted by sector



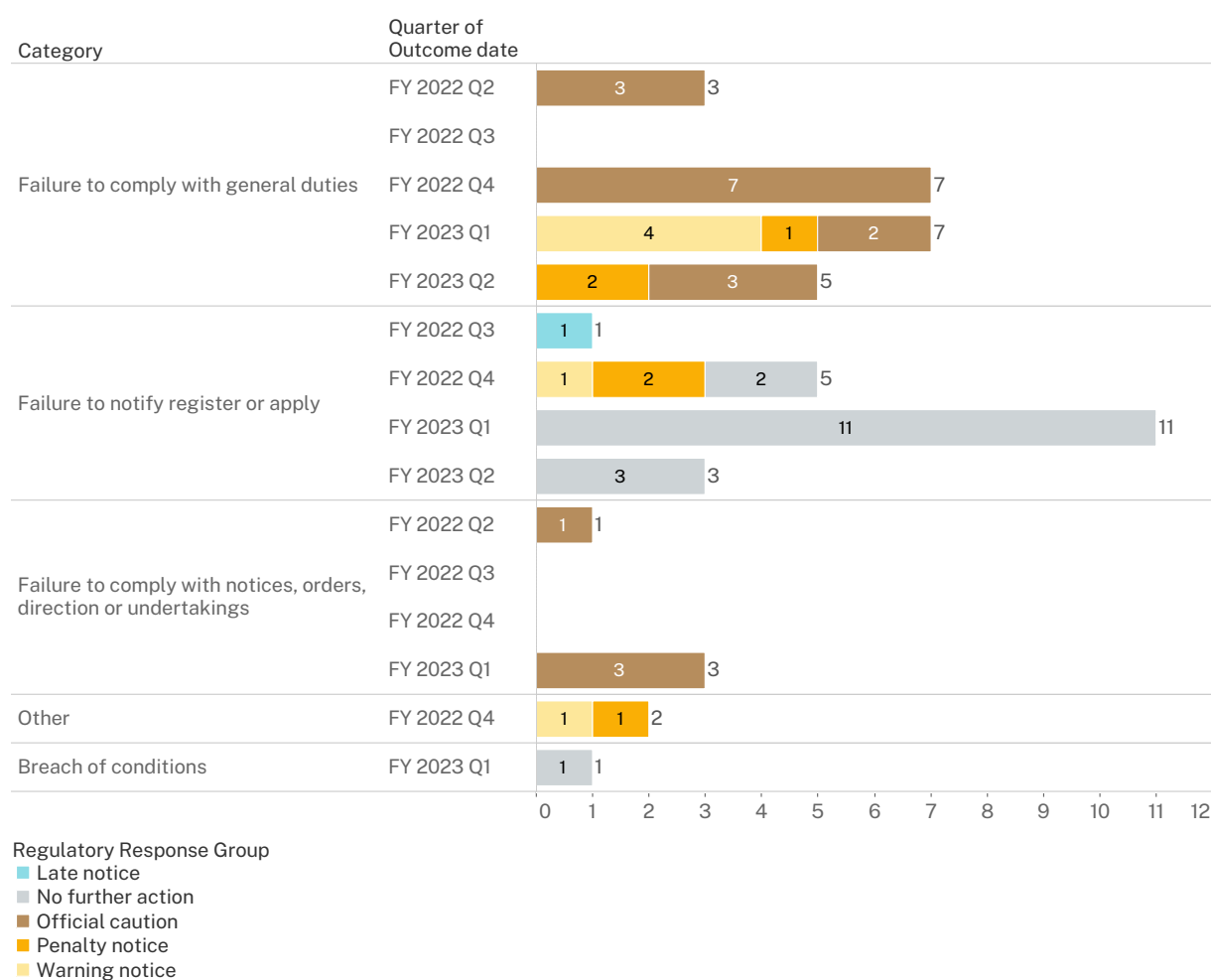
Proactive and reactive safety site assessments conducted*



* Fluctuations in the number of site assessments were due to COVID-19.

Safety compliance and enforcement activities

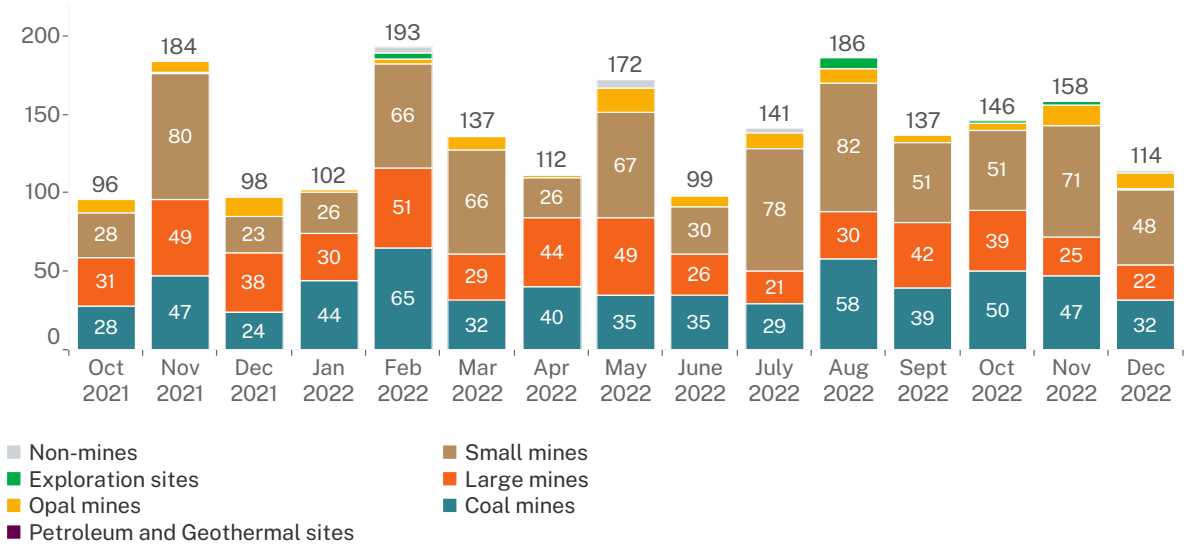
Sustained safety non-compliance and response



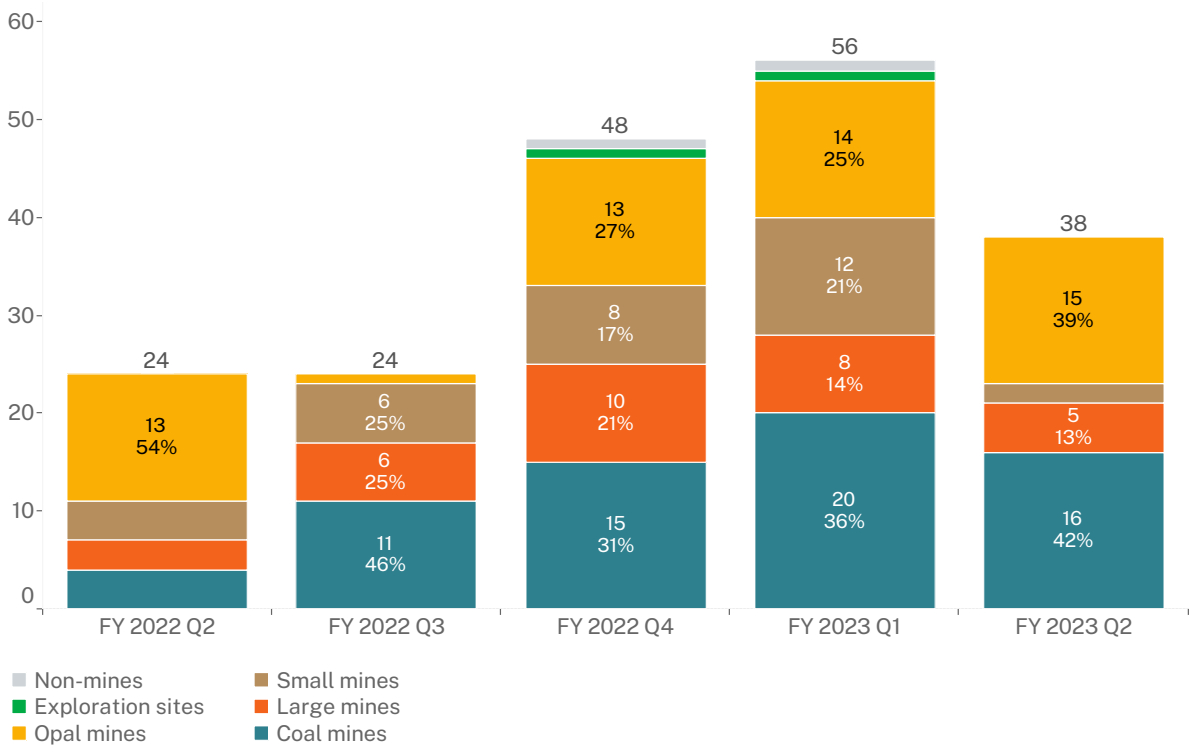
Details of key safety enforcement actions this quarter

Entity	Mine	Action	Allegation/finding
ACN 076 313 034 Pty Ltd (formerly Mudgee Dolomite & Lime Pty Ltd)	Buckaroo Quarry	Penalty notice (\$3,000)	Failure to notify regulator of notifiable incident (s15 WHS (MPS) Act)
		Penalty notice (\$3,000)	Disturb incident scene (s17 WHS (MPS) Act)

Safety notices issued by sector



Prohibition notices issued by sector



Details of prohibition notices issued this quarter

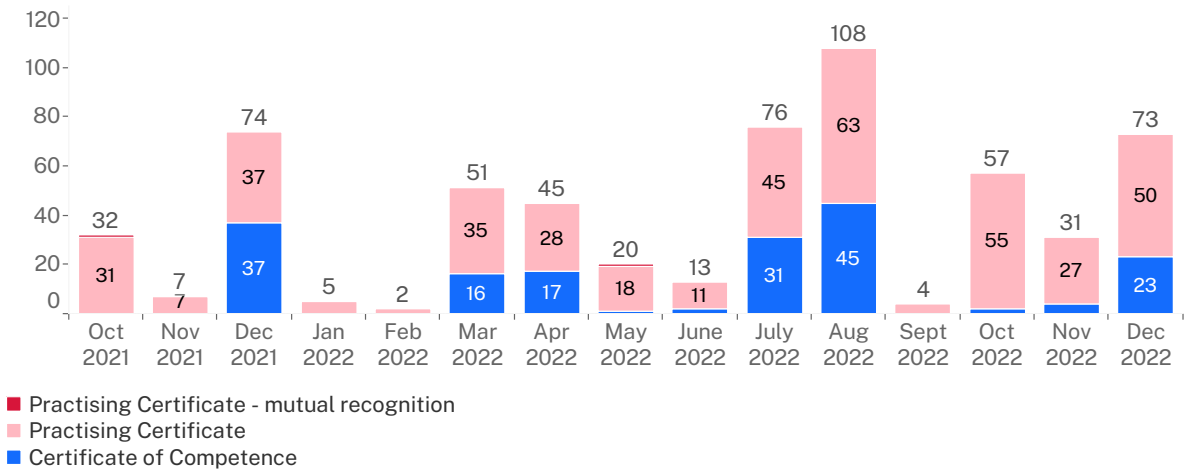
Issued to PCBU*	Mine location	Prohibited activity
Peter Charles Kennedy	MC59250	No persons to enter the area north of the narrow drive towards the swinging ladders as identified to the worker during the inspection.
Shane Russell	MC62197	All mining operations.
Springvale Coal Pty Limited	Springvale Mine Underground Operation	Recovery of TG427 plant.
Wayne Trenning	Galong Limestone Mine	Persons entering or positioned in a defined exclusion zone.
Tronox Mining Australia Limited	Ginkgo Mineral Sands Mine	The red air compressor in the frame on the back of the BSL Toyota light vehicle unit number LV 975 must not be operated other than for the purpose of inspection, testing and rectification of defects.
Narrabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd	Narrabri Colliery	A 10 mm chain cannot be used to lift/support the C/Miner shovel while flitting.
Benjamin Brown	MC22309	All mining activities.
Robert Dean	MC51184	Persons being lifted or lowered on the winding system – person riding hoist.
Wambo Coal Pty Limited	Wambo Coal Handling & Preparation Plant	Manned dozer push working in the vicinity of the North East Tailings Dam at Wambo CHPP.
CEAL Limited t/a Multiquip Quarries	Ardmore Park	No item of mobile plant including heavy or light vehicles or any other self-propelled plant shall use this section of road between the 2 access ramps where the incident occurred on 25 October 2022. Notwithstanding this direction, mobile plant identified in the documented Risk Assessment, which is required for the sole purpose of recovery of the articulated haul truck, is permitted to be used.
Dendrobium Coal Pty Ltd	Dendrobium Colliery	Positioning a person at the inbye end (mouth) of a ventilation tube when adding that ventilation tube to an active exhaust ventilation tube line exposing the person to excessive negative pressure.
Tina Uusitalo	MC56265	All mining activities.
James Hutchison	MC51185	No personnel are to enter underground workings to conduct any type of extractive operations. No personnel are to enter any unsupported areas of the mine drivage.
Springvale Coal Pty Limited	Springvale Mine Underground Operation	Positioning a person at the inbye end (mouth) of a ventilation tube when adding ventilation tube to an active exhaust ventilation tube line exposing the person to excessive negative pressure.
Bengalla Mining Company Pty Limited	Bengalla Mine	Use of the South Switchback Dump for any activities, other than to conduct a geotechnical assessment of the dump failure.
Whitehaven Coal Mining Limited	Werris Creek Coal Mine	Work is to stop on the replacement of the transmission of Dozer D11T (Doz 849).
Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd	Wilpinjong Coal Mine	Use of Unit 8012 Hedweld variable work table, Unit 8015 Hedweld rear wheel group jig and remote control used for installation and/or removal of final drive and wheel motor assemblies.
Whitehaven Coal Mining Limited	Tarrawonga Coal Mine	The removal or replacement of Hitachi EH4000 dump truck rear axle nose cones or removal and replacement of nose cone retaining pin where the nose cone is supported via the use of crane and lifting plate.

Issued to PCBU*	Mine location	Prohibited activity
Bundanoon Sandstone Quarry Pty Ltd	Bundanoon Sandstone Quarry	Access beyond the handrailed access ways either side of the operators cabin on the Volvo A40 articulated dump truck.
John Walsh (Jr)	MC31685	All mining operations.
HV Operations Pty Ltd	Hunter Valley Operations	Recovery or retrieval of DT1136 on the WN230 rehabilitation batter. Any further works on the WN230 rehabilitation batter (however not limited to dozer works beyond 50 m east of the incident scene).
Thiess Pty Ltd	Mt Arthur South (Thiess Pty Ltd)	No firing of blasts at the Mt Arthur South (Thiess) mining lease where the blast exclusion zones overlap and/or intersect the BHP mining lease.
Ann McKinnon	MC56337	All mining activities.
Ann McKinnon	MC56336	All mining activities.
John Edward Gore	MC61542	Undertake underground workings.
Perilya Broken Hill Limited	Southern Operations	NFL41-Caterpillar IT28 must not be operated, other than for the purpose of testing and rectification of defects.
Springvale Coal Pty Limited	Springvale Mine Underground Operation	Using handheld rotary drilling equipment to install roof supports of a length that necessitates the installation/removal of multiple drill steels.
HV Operations Pty Ltd	Hunter Valley Operations	No works are to be conducted on the R117 Dump with the exception of works associated with the recovery of Truck 422.
Wayne Foley	MC1806	All mining operations.
Anthony Dickinson	MC43531	All mining operations.
David Pixton	MC735	All mining operations.
Josef Tichacek	MC55890	All mining operations.
Josef Tichacek	MC56454	All mining operations.
Springvale Coal Pty Limited	Springvale Mine Underground Operation	The use of MG429 2-7CT as a travelling road for man transports or load haul dump machines, other than to effect repairs to potholes and ensure safe approach, departure and ramp-over angles at water management berms.
Cobar Management Pty Ltd	CSA Mine	The carrying out of mining activities in the drive.
Cobar Management Pty Ltd	CSA Mine	Loading dirt at the drive.
Endeavour Coal Pty Ltd	Appin Colliery	Longwall production on Longwall 709.
Thiess Pty Ltd	Mount Pleasant Operation – Thiess Pty Ltd	No work is to be conducted on Liebherr excavator (fleet number 2316). This does not prohibit any work required to identify all energy sources and isolation requirements on the machine.
Total		38

* Person conducting a business or undertaking.

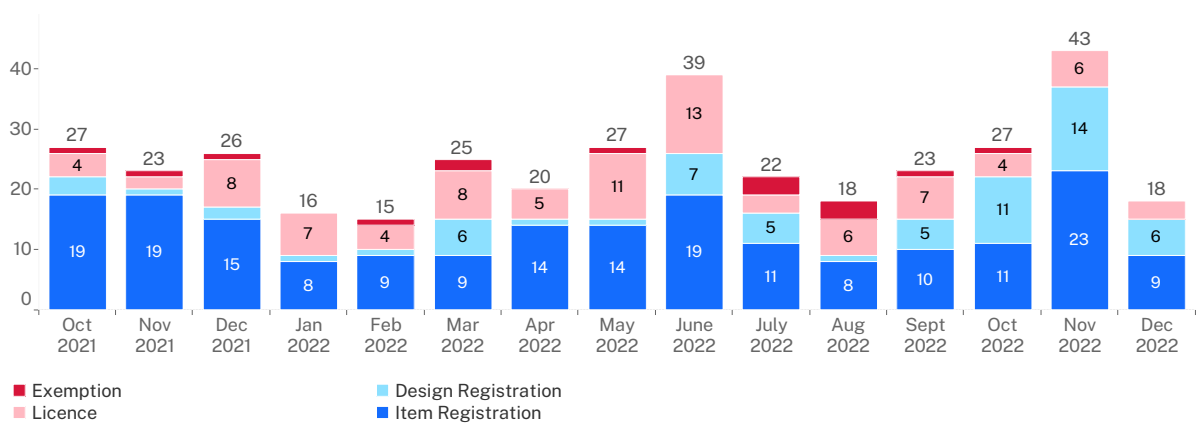
Mining competencies activities

Competence and practising certificates granted



Mining authorisation activities

Exemptions, licence, design and item registrations granted

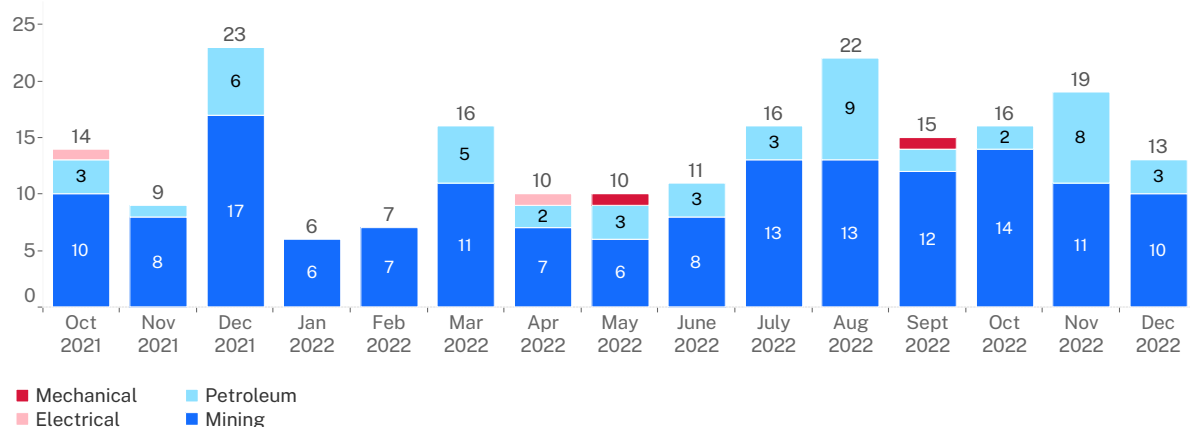


Details of exemption applications refused this quarter

No applications requesting exemption from specific provisions of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022 were refused this quarter.

High risk activity notifications

High risk activity notifications received by engineering discipline



Details of high risk activity notifications received this quarter

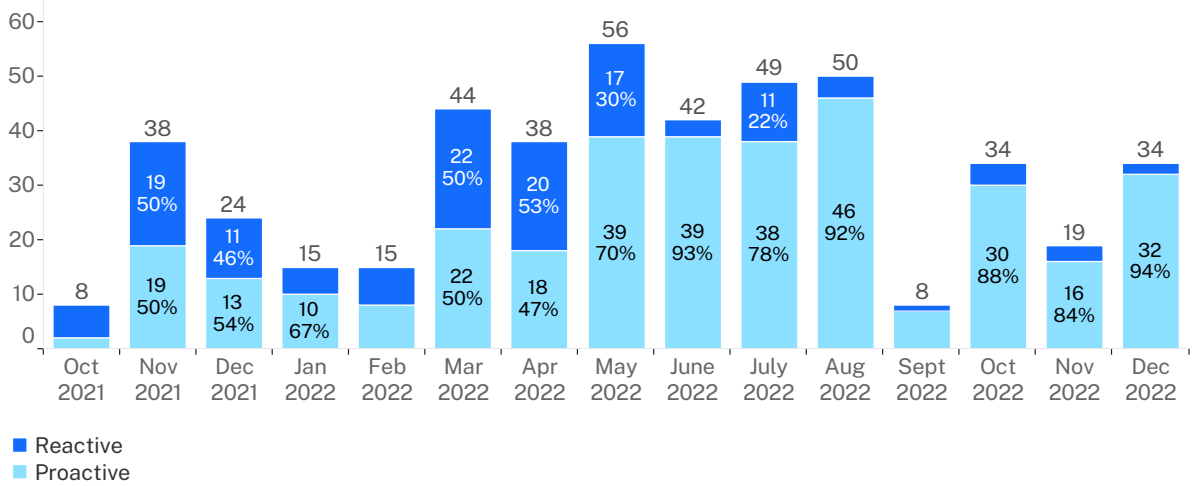
Legislation*	Type of high risk activity	Number
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 5	Development of new mine entry	3
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 9	Working in inrush control zone	2
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 10	Roadway or drift without intersection for 250 m	1
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 12	Sealing	3
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 14	Driving underground roadway that is wider than 5.5 m	3
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 16	Formation of non-conforming pillars	8
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 17	Secondary extraction	3
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 18	Shallow depth of cover mining	1
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 25	Booster fans	1
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 29	Emplacement areas	3
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 31	Barrier mining	1
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 33	Construction of well	2
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 35	Decommissioning a well	12
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 36	Suspending a well	1
WHS(MPS) Reg Sch 3 cl 38	Tailings storage facilities	4
Total		48

* Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022.

Mining Act 1992 activities

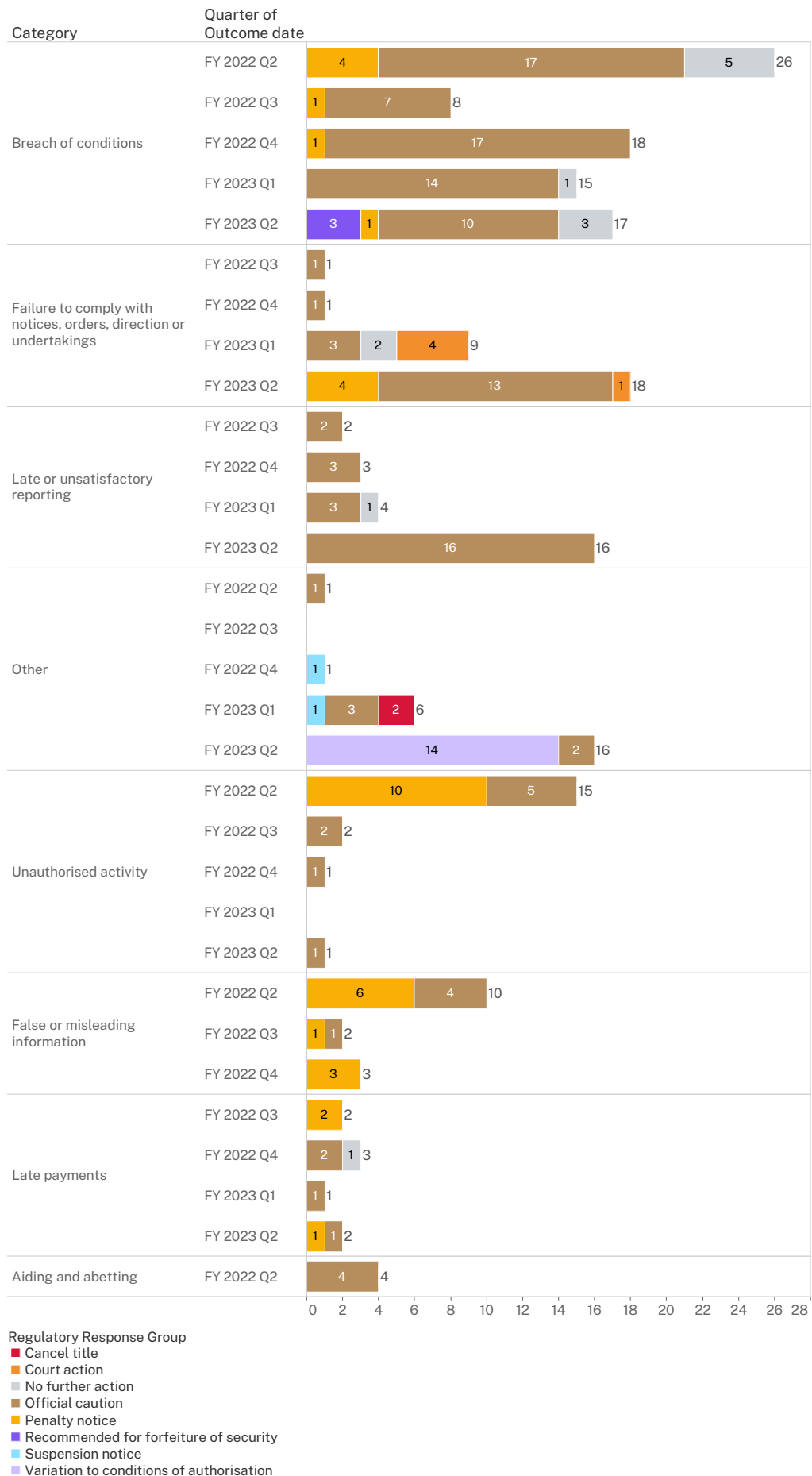
Mining Act assessments

Proactive and reactive Mining Act site assessments conducted

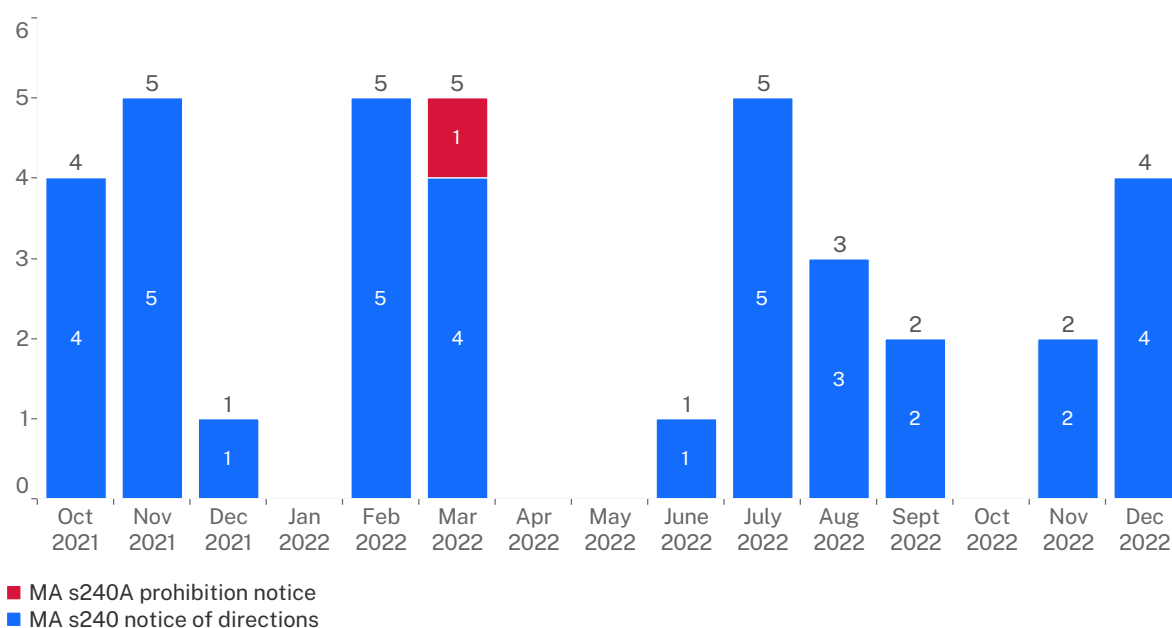


Mining Act compliance and enforcement activities

Sustained Mining Act non-compliance and response



Mining Act notices issued by type



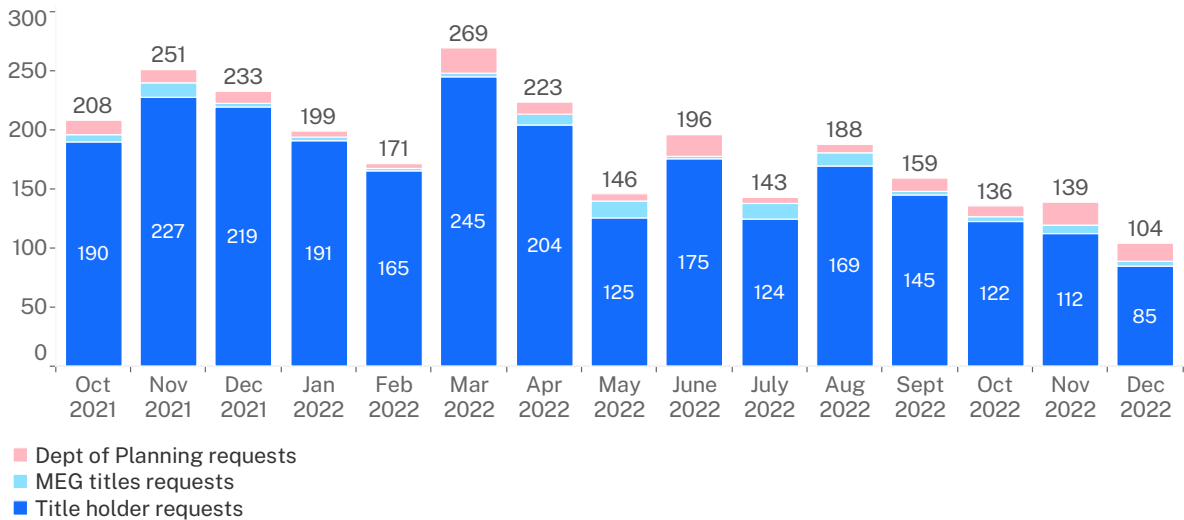
Details of key Mining Act enforcement actions this quarter

Entity	Mine	Action	Allegation/finding
Conrad Resources Pty Ltd	EL 5977 (1992)	Penalty notice (\$5,000)	Failure to comply with notices, orders, direction or undertaking
Cadia Holdings Pty Limited	ML 1405 (1992)	Penalty notice (\$5,000)	Failure to comply with notices, orders, direction or undertaking
Cadia Holdings Pty Limited	ML 1405 (1992)	Penalty notice (\$5,000)	Failure to comply with notices, orders, direction or undertaking
Volcan Australia Corporation Pty Ltd	EL 7301 (1992)	Penalty notice (\$1,000)	Late payments
CIM Duralie Pty Ltd	ML 1427 (1992)	Penalty notice (\$5,000)	Failure to comply with notices, orders, direction or undertaking
Tritton Resources Pty Ltd	EL 4962 (1992)	Penalty notice (\$2,500)	Breach of conditions
Total			6

Mining Act requests for service

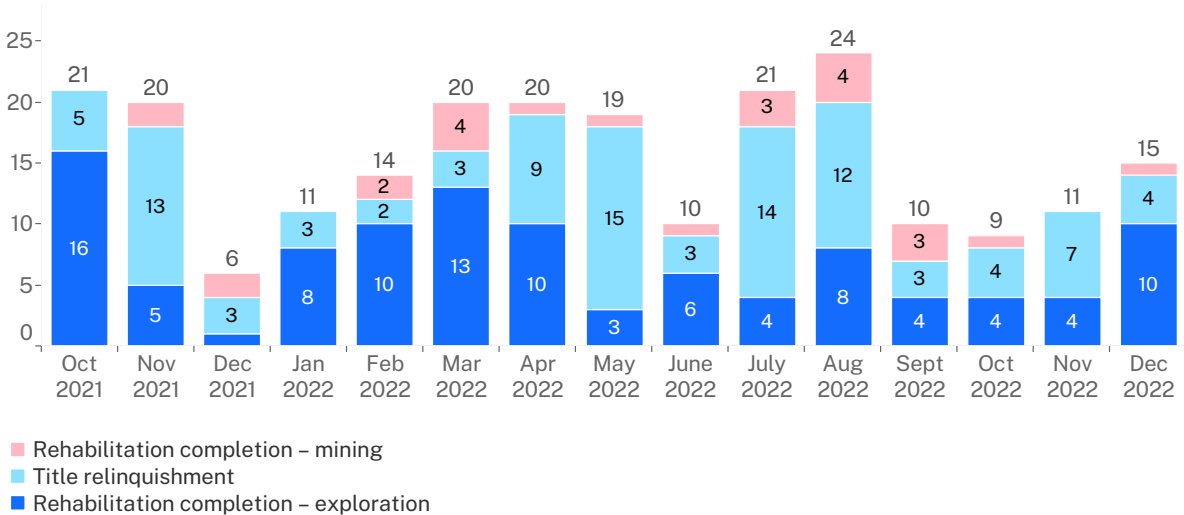
Requests for service include requests from title holders, other branches within Mining, Exploration and Geoscience concerning the administration of mining authorisations and requests from either the NSW Department of Planning and Environment or a local consent authority relating to development assessment applications under the *NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Mining Act actioned requests for service



Mining Act rehabilitation completion

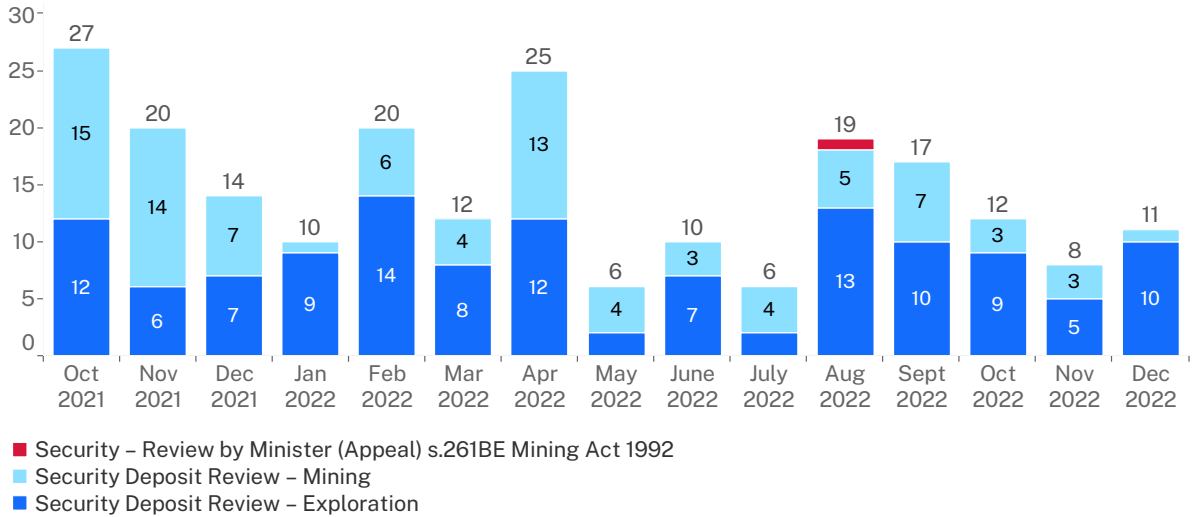
Mining Act rehabilitation actions completed



Rehabilitation security deposit review

Our inspectors regularly assess the surface disturbance (or proposed disturbance) of a mine or exploration site to calculate the security deposit. This is known as the assessed deposit. Once the assessed deposit is determined, we advise the area within Mining, Exploration and Geoscience responsible for title administration who vary the condition of the title and seek the additional funds - or in the case of satisfactory rehabilitation, returns some or all of the security deposit.

Rehabilitation security deposit reviews assessed



Industry engagement activities

Committees and other industry body involvement

Committees and other industry body involvement

Committee/body	Detail	Number
Muswellbrook Shire Council Quarterly Meeting	Committee meeting	1
Standards Association – AS3584.3 – Maintenance of diesel engine systems for underground coal mines	Committee meeting	1
Standards Association – ME-063 Earthmoving equipment	Committee meeting	1
Standards Association – SF-041 Safety of machinery	Committee meeting	1
Standards Association – ME-025 Lifting tackle	Committee meeting	1
NSW Minerals Council Mine Rehabilitation Sub-Committee – implementation of rehabilitation reforms	Committee meeting	1
Total		6

External education and engagement activities

Workshops and information sessions

Type of activity	Location	Detail	Number
Training session	Lightning Ridge	Lightning Ridge Opal Mine Safety Workshop OMSW	2
Training session	Sydney	Electrical Engineering Safety Seminar	1
Training session	Sydney	Mining Engineering Managers Safety Seminar	1
Presentation	Online	Presentation to Forestry Corporation management on the role of NSW Resources Regulator	1
Forum	Ballina	Institute of Quarrying – Northern Sub-Branch	1
Total			6

Publications and alerts

Media releases, newsletters, safety alerts and bulletins, and other publications

Type	Number
Forms	88
Exam papers	2
Gazettes	11
Guidance material	19
Media releases	1
Investigation information releases	5
Mine rehabilitation news	1
Mine safety news	6
Reports	55
Safety alerts	3
Safety bulletins	5
Weekly incident summaries	11
Total	207

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