

Consolidated report

Mine safety high visibility campaign 2025

23 June 2025 to 4 July 2025



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Executive summary

The Resources Regulator conducts an annual high visibility campaign targeting specific safety issues and safety related trends occurring and emerging in the NSW mining industry.

The Regulator’s high visibility campaign 2025 assigned 48 mine safety inspectors to attend 144 NSW mine sites during a two-week campaign conducted from Monday 23 June 2025 to Friday 4 July 2025.

The safety focus of the campaign at coal mines (surface and underground mines) and metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 surface and underground mines) reviewed the implementation of controls to prevent reoccurrence of similar types of incidents that had been reported to the Regulator and compliance notices issued within the previous 12-months.

Inspectors visiting small mines sector (tier 2) sites gave a safety presentation to supervisors and workers and conducted an inspection at the site with a focus on safety devices associated with conveyor and crushing systems.

This report will consolidate inspection findings and provide analysis of the critical controls and material unwanted events (MUE) related to 244 compliance notices issued to 96 mine sites during the campaign.

Types of mine sites inspected during the campaign

In total there were 144 mine sites inspected during the high visibility campaign 2025, including

- 22 open cut coal mines
- 18 underground coal mines
- 22 surface metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 surface and underground mines)
- 17 underground metalliferous mines
- 65 small mine sites (tier 2 surface sites)

Table 1. Mine sites inspected by sector during the high visibility campaign 2025

Sector	Dredging	Open cut	Underground	Total
Coal mines		22	18	40
Metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 and underground)		22	17	39
Small mines (tier 2)	4	61		65
Total	4	105	35	144

Notices issued to mine sites

There were 244 compliance notices (WHS s23, s191 & s195) issued to 96 mine sites during the two-week period of the high visibility campaign.

Table 2. Notices issued for all mine sites during the high visibility campaign 2025

Notice type	Total issued	Number of mine sites issued a notice*
s 195 prohibition notice	6	6
s 191 improvement notice	168	80
s 23 notice of concern	70	61
Total	244	96

*Note: not all mines were issued a notice, and some mines were issued multiple notices

Regulators assessment of compliance at mine sites

The high visibility campaign is a component of the Regulator's incident prevention strategy for health and safety compliance across the NSW resources industry.

Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS) improvement notices (s191) and prohibition notices (s195) issued during the campaign give directions and recommendations to mine operators relating to the requirements of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum sites) legislation.

The following information in the report refers only to WHS s191 and s195 compliance notices and does not include topics identified in WHS(MPS) Act 2013 - s23 notices of concern.

The Regulator assesses the mine operator's management of the critical controls to prevent material unwanted events (MUE's) and evaluates the effectiveness of critical controls in the mine operator's health and safety management system.

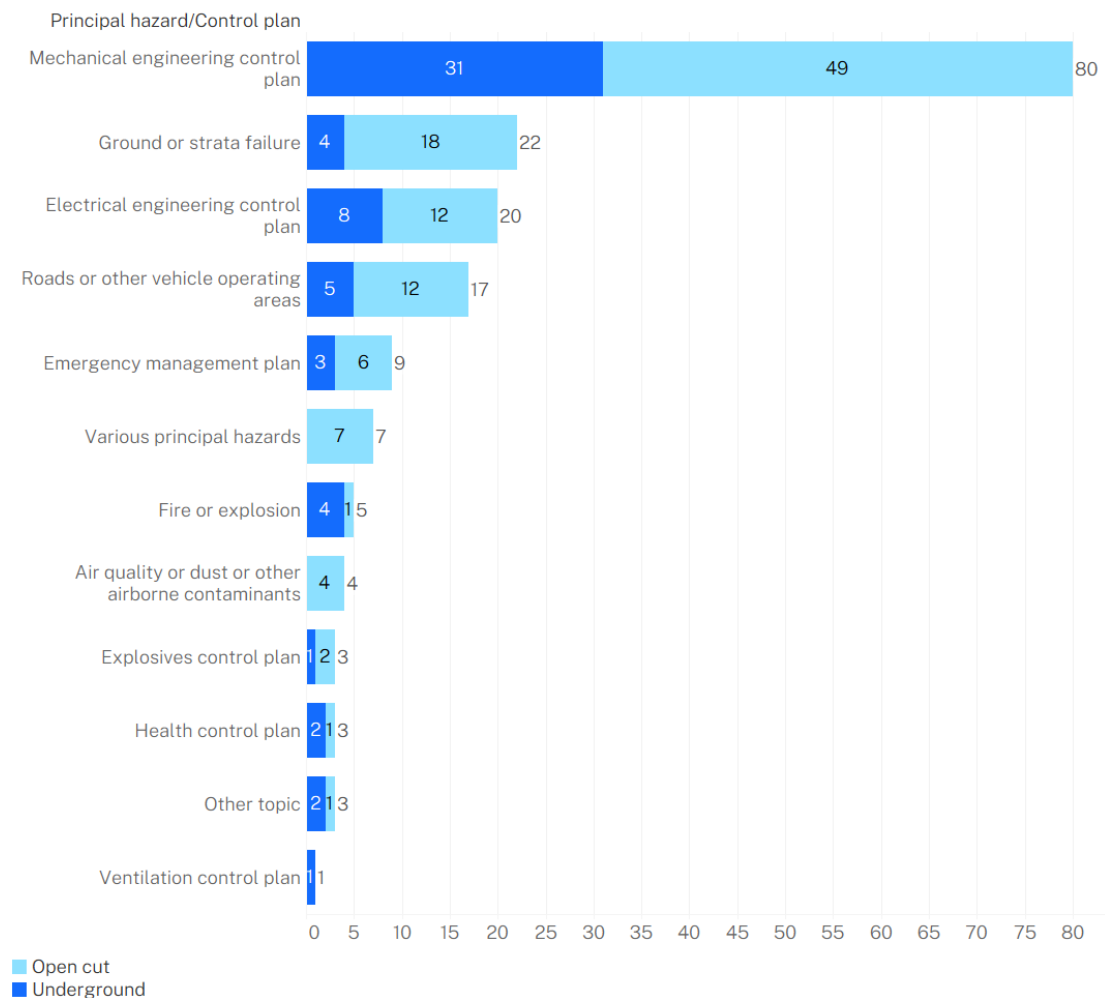
Further information and fact sheets about the Regulators assessment of critical controls and MUE's can be found on the Regulators web site at:

<https://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/resources-regulator/safety/assessment-programs>

Compliance notices (s191/s195) principal hazard or control plan – all mines

80 of the 174 improvement notices (s191) and prohibition notices (s195) issued were related to mechanical engineering control plan (MECP) topics.

Figure 1. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan – all mines



Compliance notices (s191/s195) principal hazard or control plan and material unwanted event – all mines

The top 3 principal hazard/control plan topics subject of compliance notices (s191/s195) at all mine sites were:

- mechanical engineering control plan – 80 compliance notices
- ground or strata failure principal hazard plan – 22 compliance notice
- electrical engineering control plan – 20 notices

All mines - mechanical engineering control plan (s191/s195)

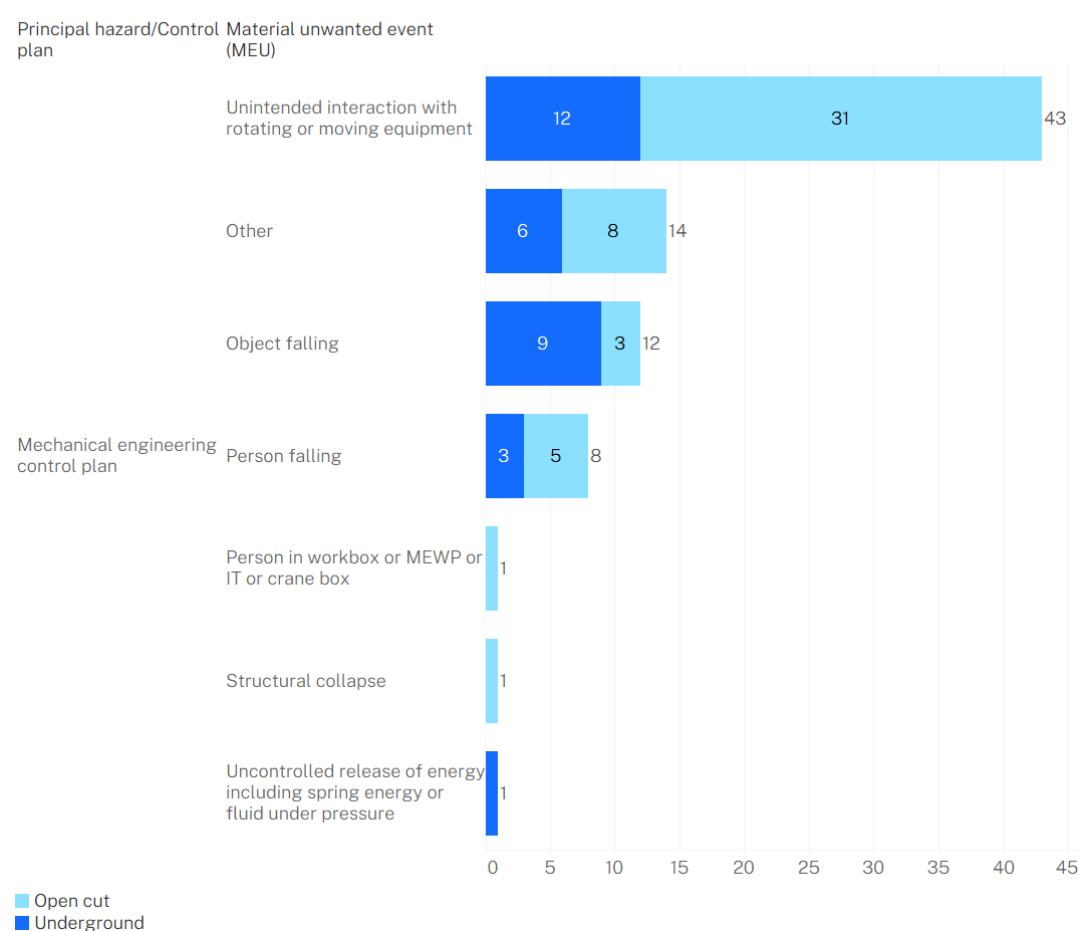
43 of the 80 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to MECP were issued for the material unwanted event (MUE) unintended interaction with rotating or moving equipment.

31 of the 43 notices for surface mines were related to the MUE unintended interaction with rotating or moving equipment.

12 of the 43 notices for underground mines were related to the MUE unintended interaction with rotating or moving equipment

37 of the 80 compliance notices related to the mechanical engineering control plan were issued related to 6 other types of MUE.

Figure 2. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – all mines – mechanical engineering control plan

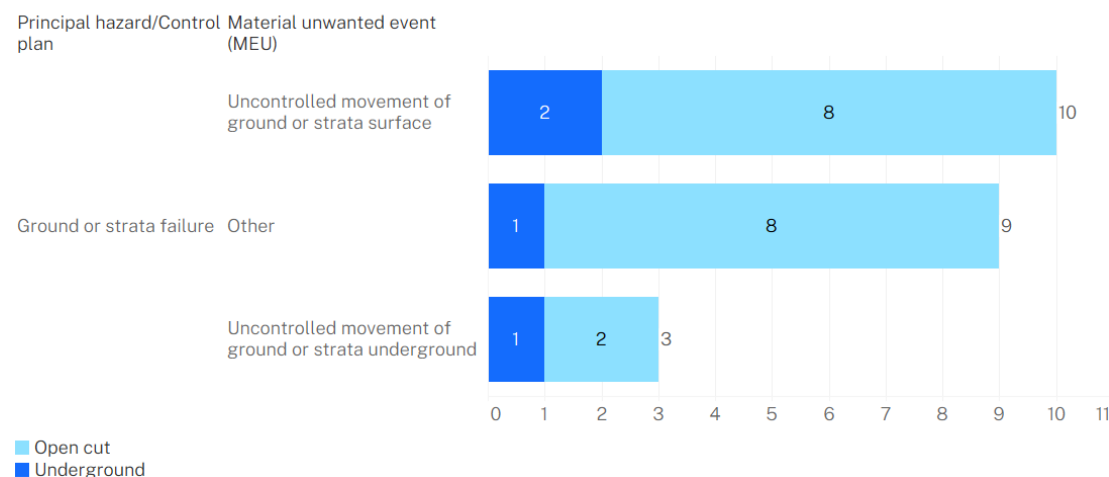


All mines - ground or strata failure principal hazard management plan (s191/s195)

18 of the 22 compliance notices for surface mines were related to the ground or strata failure principal hazard management plan.

4 of the 22 compliance notices for underground mines were related to the ground or strata failure principal hazard management plan.

Figure 3. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – all mines – ground or strata failure

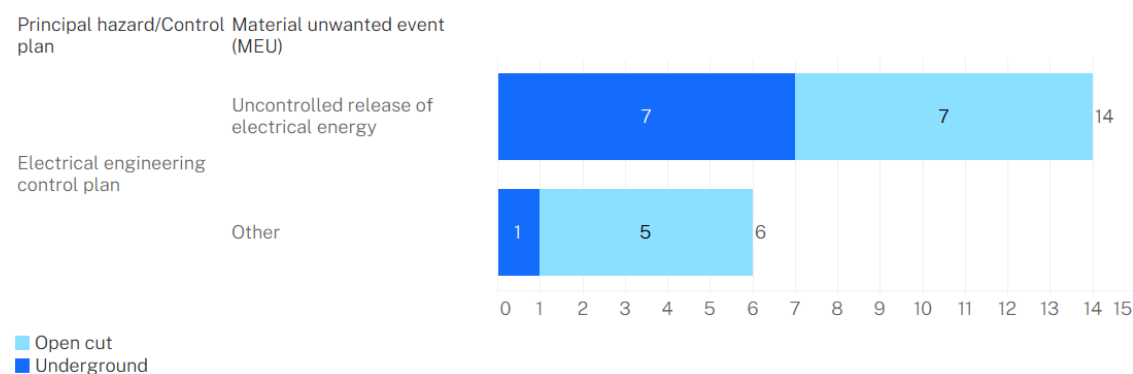


All mines - electrical engineering control plan (s191/s195)

12 of the 20 compliance notices for surface mines were related to the electrical engineering control plan.

8 of the 20 compliance notices for underground mines were related to the electrical engineering control plan.

Figure 4. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – all mines – electrical engineering control plan



Compliance notices issued to coal mines

In summary, for coal mines:

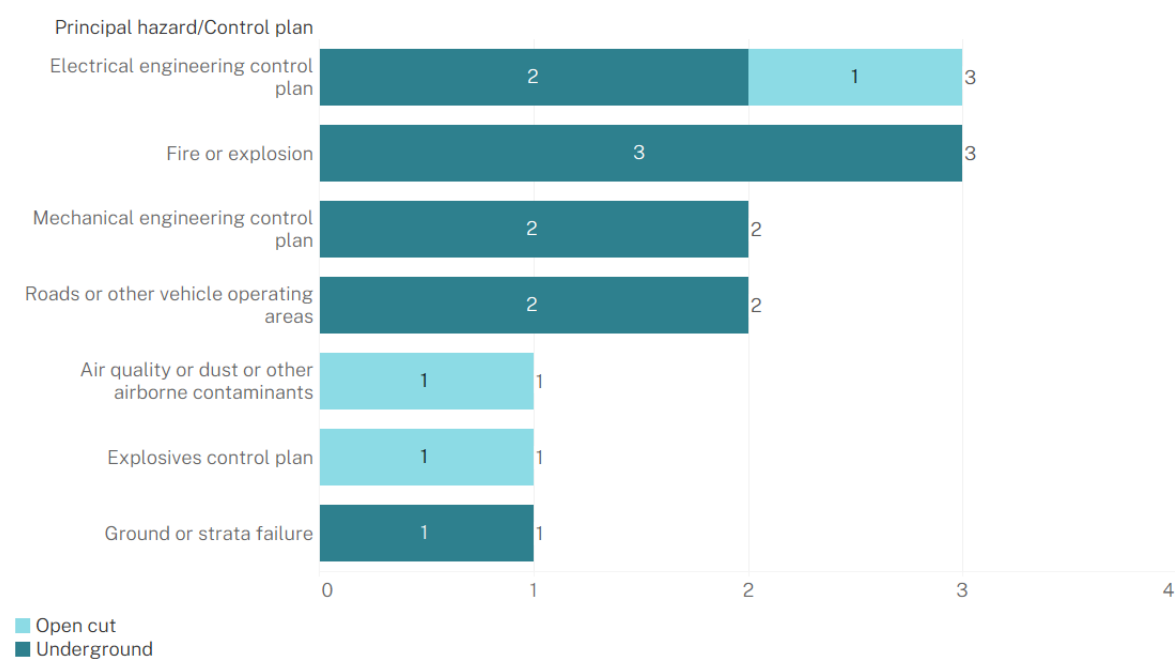
- 40 coal mines inspected during the campaign
- 30 compliance notices (s23, s191 and s195) issued to 17 coal mines
- 25 of the 30 compliance notices were issued to underground coal mines

Table 1. Notices issued by notice type – coal mines

Operation type	WHS(MPS)A s23 notice of concerns	WHS s191 improvement notice	WHS s195 prohibition notice	Total
Open cut	2	3	0	5
Underground	15	10	0	25
Total	17	13	0	30

- 3 of the 13 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to electrical engineering control plan topics
- 3 of the 13 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to fire and explosion principal hazard management plan topics
- 7 of the 13 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to 5 other types of principal hazard or control plan

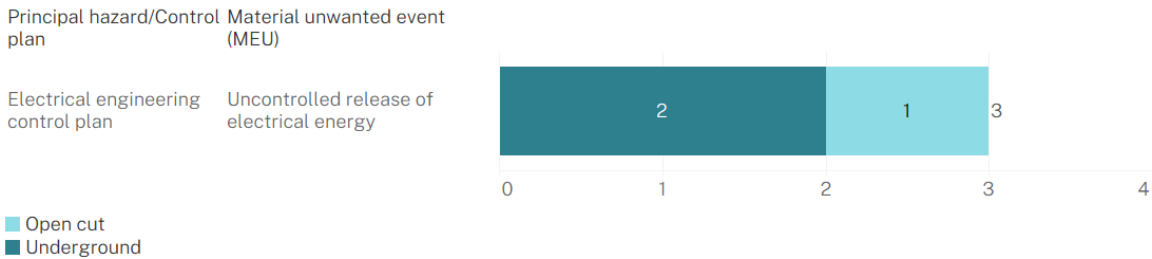
Figure 5. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan – coal mines



Coal- electrical engineering control plan (s191/s195)

- 3 compliance notices related to the electrical engineering control plan

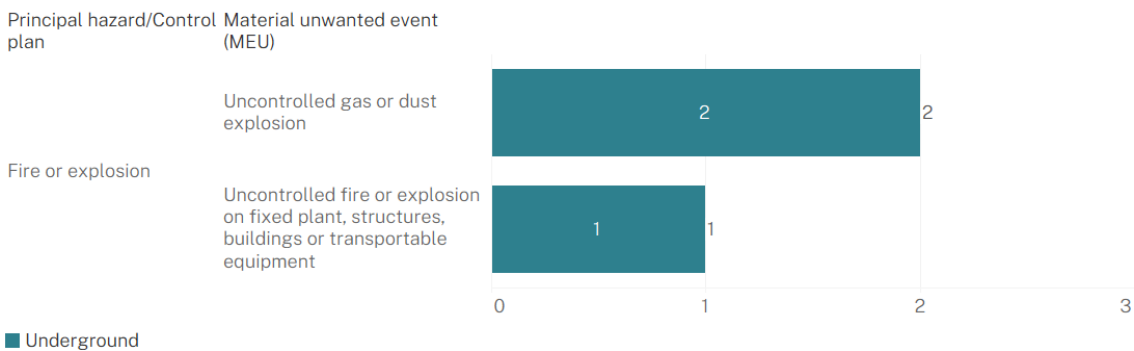
Figure 5. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – coal mines – electrical engineering control plan



Coal- fire or explosion principal hazard management plan (s191/s195)

- 3 compliance notices related to the fire or explosion principal hazard management plan

Figure 6. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – coal mines – fire or explosion



Compliance notices issued to metalliferous and extractives mines

In summary, for metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 and underground mines) (METEX):

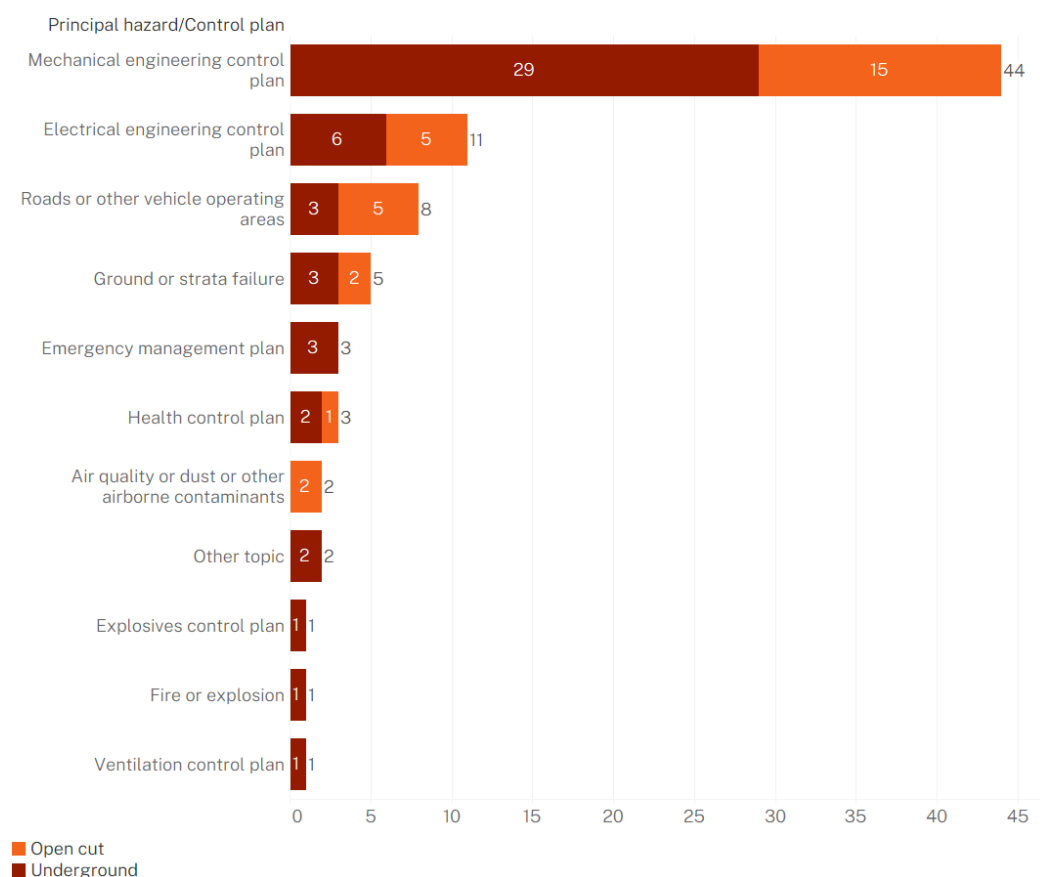
- 39 mines inspected during the campaign
- 115 compliance notices (s23, s191 and s195) issued to 33 mines
- 71 of the 115 compliance notes were issued to underground mines

Table 2. Notices issued by notice type – metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 and underground)

Operation type	WHS(MPS)A s23 notice of concerns	WHS s191 improvement notice	WHS s195 prohibition notice	Grand Total
Open cut	14	28	2	44
Underground	20	50	1	71
Total	34	78	3	115

- 44 of the 81 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to mechanical engineering control plan
- 37 of the 81 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to 10 other types of principal hazard or control plan

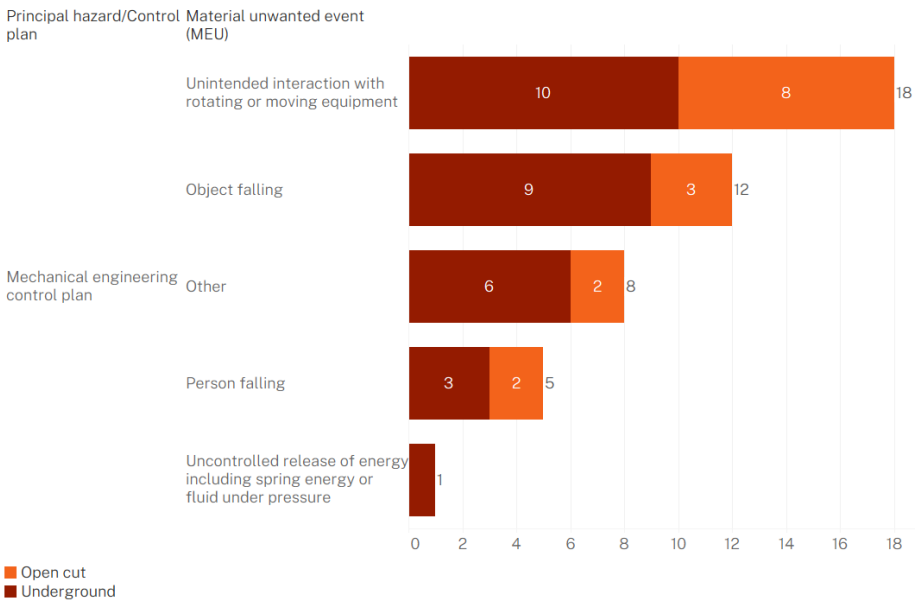
Figure 7. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan – metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 and underground)



METEX – mechanical engineering control plan (s191/s195)

- 44 compliance notices related to the mechanical engineering control plan

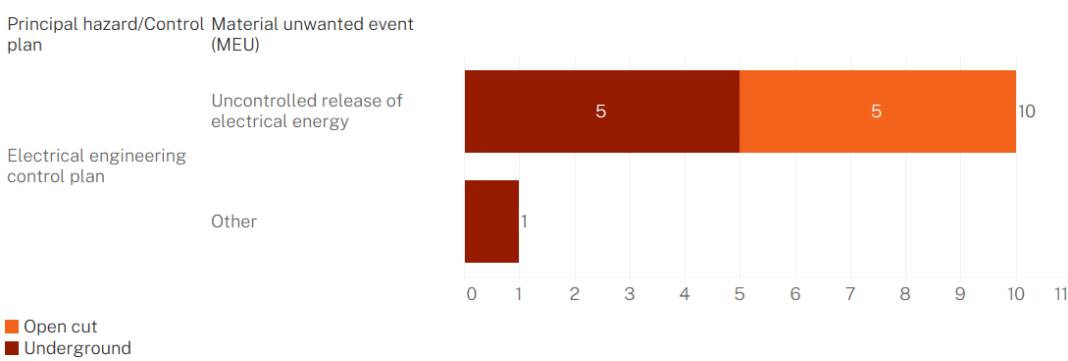
Figure 8. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 and underground) – mechanical engineering control plan



METEX – electrical engineering control plan (s191/s195)

- 11 compliance notices related to the electrical engineering control plan

Figure 9. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – metalliferous and extractives mines (tier 1 and underground) – electrical engineering control plan



Compliance notices issued to small mine sites

In summary, for small mine sites (tier 2 sites):

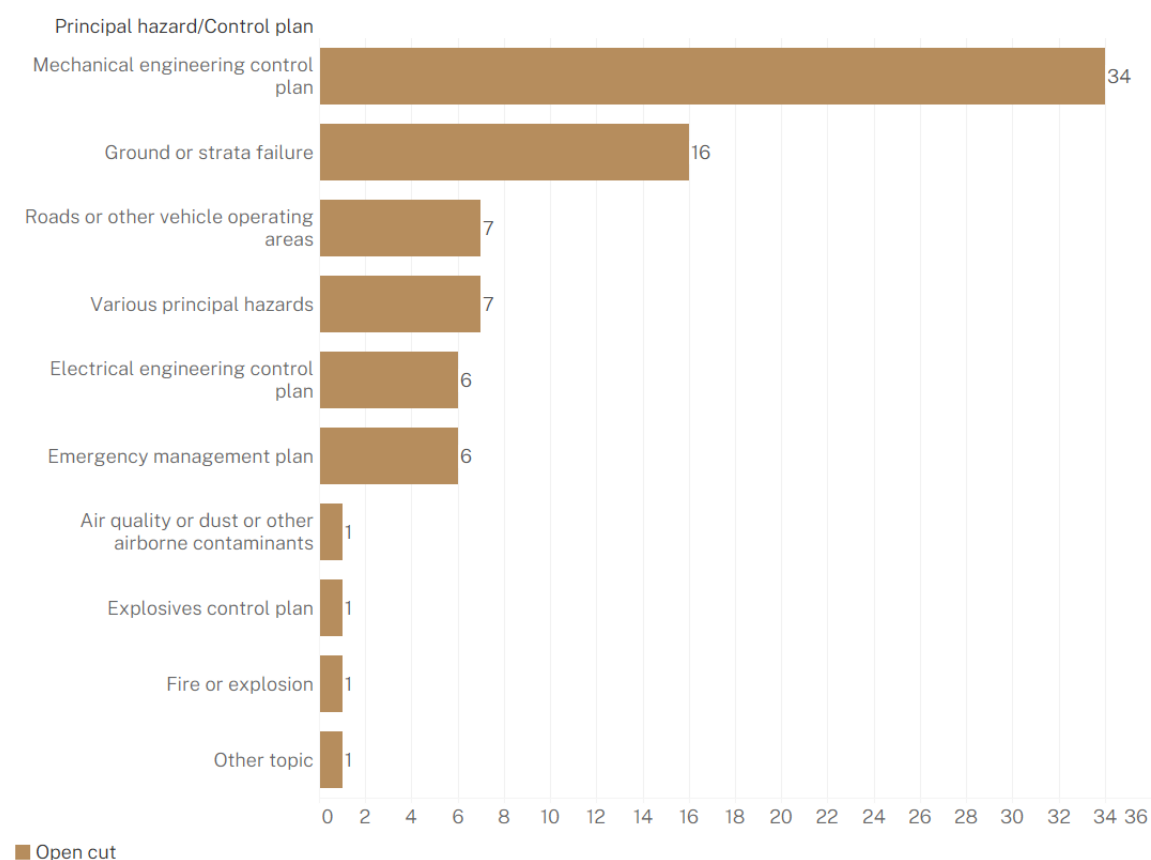
- 65 mines inspected during the campaign
- 99 compliance notices (s23, s191 and s195) were issued to 46 mines

Table 3. Notices issued by notice type – small mines (tier 2)

Operation type	WHS(MPS)A s23 notice of concerns	WHS s191 improvement notice	WHS s195 prohibition notice	Grand Total
Dredging	2	0	0	2
Open cut	17	77	3	97
Total	19	77	3	99

- 34 of the 80 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to the MECP
- 16 of the 80 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to ground or strata failure principal hazard management plan
- 30 of the 80 compliance notices (s191/s195) related to 8 other principal hazard or control plan topic

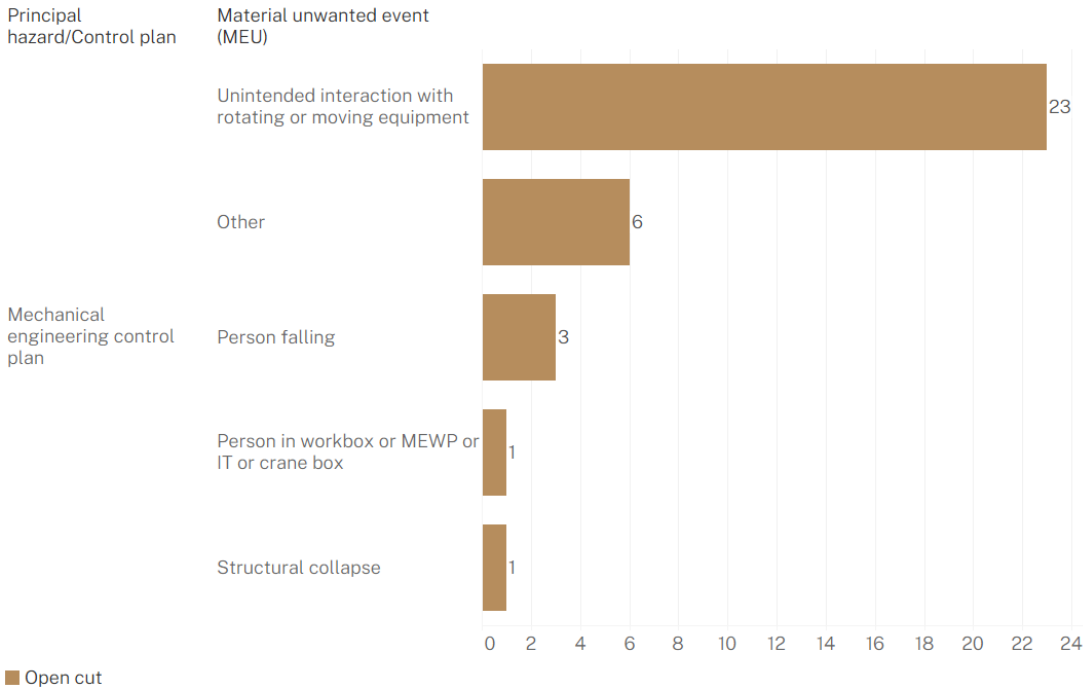
Figure 10. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan – small mine sites (tier 2 sites)



Small mines- mechanical engineering control plan (s191/s195)

- 34 compliance notices related to the mechanical engineering control plan

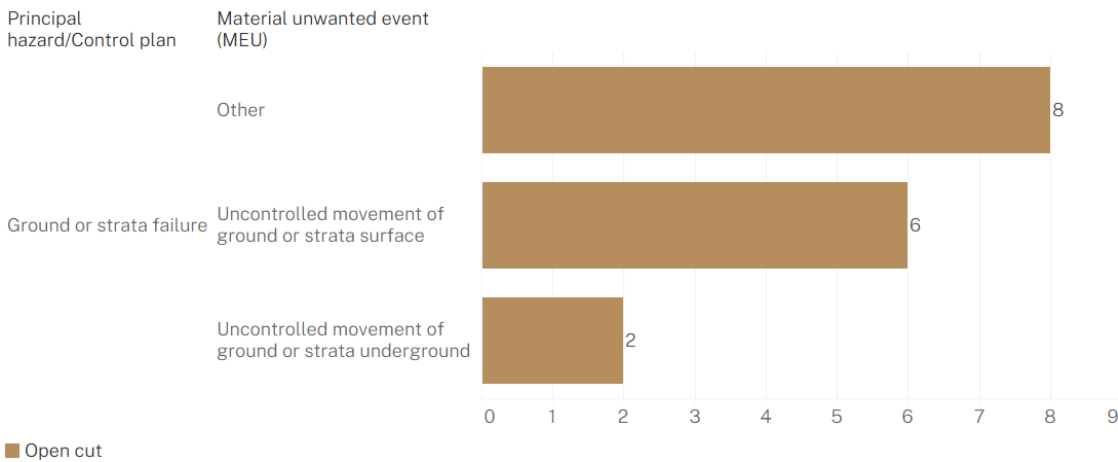
Figure 11. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – small mine sites (tier 2 sites) – mechanical engineering control plan



Small mines- ground or strata failure principal hazard management plan (s191/s195)

- 16 compliance notices related to the ground or strata failure principal hazard management plan

Figure 12. Improvement and prohibition notices issued by principal hazard/control plan and MUE and category – small mine sites (tier 2 sites) – ground or strata principal hazard management plan



Further information

For more information on safety assessment programs, the findings outlined in this report, or other mine safety information, please contact the Regulator.

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