

# WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 25 March 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	41
Summarised incident total	2

## Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0041896 Open cut coal	A hydraulic shovel was set up to change rollers. Two stands were put in position to support the shovel. Additional repair works to the bucket were then identified which required the shovel to be moved. While repositioning the bucket, the shovel became unbalanced and slid off the support stands. The stands were pushed into two load rollers, breaking their mounting bolts and causing them to become dislodged.	When a machine is sitting on support stands and must be operated, a risk assessment should be conducted and additional controls required put in place prior to proceeding. When planning multiple maintenance tasks on a piece of equipment, risk assessments must be undertaken to ensure that workers carrying out one task do not introduce risks to workers undertaking other tasks.



Dangerous incident  
IncNot0041898  
Underground  
metals

A haul truck was travelling on a decline and pulled into a return air drive to allow another vehicle to pass.

The truck struck a poly Y coupling on the ventilation ducting, tearing the duct, which resulted in a large amount of dust being stirred up.

As the operator exited the haul truck, the poly coupling, weighing approximately 200 kg, fell from the headboard of the truck and struck the operator. The operator was knocked to the ground but was uninjured.



When developing control measures to manage the risks of roads or other vehicle operating areas, the interaction between mobile plant and fixed structures must be considered. This includes overhead ventilation ducting and accessories. Factors to consider include:

- roadway height and width
- load height and width
- location of services suspended from the roof
- loss of clearance due to additional material on roadways.

Mine operators and suppliers should review how services such as ventilation Y couplings are hung and supported.

Mine supervisors should conduct frequent physical inspections of mine roadways to ensure there is adequate clearance for plant to operate.

Equipment operators must remain alert to operating heights and clearances around their vehicle.

## 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
<b>National (fatal)</b>	
<b>Resources Safety &amp; Health Queensland</b>	<p><b>Fatal accident underground working with suspended load</b></p> <p>Coal mine workers at the Moranbah North underground mine were conducting infrastructure activities involving the dismantling of conveyor equipment underground. This required the movement of a suspended load, using block and tackle, lever hoist (cumalong) and slings. The activity at the time of the incident involved a heavy load of an estimated four tonnes. The load shifted during the activity and resulted in fatal injuries to a coal mine worker.</p> <p><a href="#">Details</a></p>
<b>National (other, non-fatal)</b>	
<b>Agency – WA government</b>	<p><b>Accident and injury statistics 2020-2021</b></p> <p>Total serious lost time injuries (LTIs) rose more than 6 per cent to 402 across Western Australia's resources sector between 2020 and 2021 compared to the previous period. Nearly 96 per cent of these serious LTIs occurred in metalliferous mines while the rest happened at coal operations. A further nine serious LTIs were reported for exploration, down nearly 4 per cent on the previous period. The department revealed most underground serious injuries were to the hands (18 per cent), arms (14 per cent), ankles, back and other body parts. More than a third (36 per cent) of serious injuries were to the arms, legs and trunk.</p> <p><a href="#">Details</a></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.

© State of New South Wales through Regional NSW 2022 You may copy, distribute, display, download and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute Regional NSW as the owner. However, you must obtain permission if you wish to charge others for access to the publication (other than at cost); include the publication in advertising or a product for sale; modify the publication; or republish the publication on a website. You may freely link to the publication on a departmental website.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (March 2022) and may not be accurate, current or complete. The State of New South Wales (including Regional NSW), the author and the publisher take no responsibility, and will accept no liability, for the accuracy, currency, reliability or correctness of any information included in the document (including material provided by third parties). Readers should make their own inquiries and rely on their own advice when making decisions related to material contained in this publication.

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

<b>CM9 reference</b>	RDOC22/38499
<b>Mine safety reference</b>	ISR22-12
<b>Date published</b>	1 April 2022