

Weekly incident summary

Week ending 28 October 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	36
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
Dangerous incident IncNot0043302 Underground coal mine	<p>Two longwall roof supports rotated and were canopy tip down. To correct this, workers were drilling and shooting stone above the roof supports.</p> <p>Two workers were using a hand-held air drill, one behind the drill operating it and a second next to the drill holding it. The second worker saw a small rock fall into the work area and the other worker reached across the drill to deflect it. As he reached, his jumper became caught in the rotating steel. The worker suffered severe friction burns to his right forearm. The crew had to cut the jumper away to release the worker.</p>	<p>Workers must remain situationally aware when operating any type of equipment or plant.</p> <p>Training in how to operate hand-held drilling equipment should include the hazards of rotating drill steels and interaction with clothing and long hair.</p> <p>Drill operators should keep both hands on the operating drill at all times and ensure they remain clear of rotating components such as drill steels and chucks.</p>



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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
Dangerous incident IncNot0043318 Open cut coal mine Ground or strata failure	<p>A slump occurred at a tailings dam while a dozer was preparing the area for a remote dozer push. The preparation works included establishing a tip head at the dozer sighter peg line and filling in the void area prior to the sighter pegs.</p>  <p>The image shows a large, dark, rocky tailings dam. A dozer is visible on the top edge of the dam, with an arrow pointing to it labeled 'Dozer location'. A red arrow points to a section of the dam's slope that has failed, labeled 'Slope failure'.</p>	<p>Mine operators must have safe systems of work in place to inspect highwalls, low walls and dumps. These inspections must consider weathering effects, ground water and conditions that affect the stability.</p> <p>Operators working in the vicinity of geotechnical hazards should be trained and deemed competent to do so.</p> <p>Refer to: Safety Bulletin SB20-01 Failure of highwalls, low walls and dumps.</p>
Dangerous incident IncNot0043322 Construction materials Ground or strata failure	<p>An articulated dump truck was driving along a newly constructed roadway when the roadway has failed. The truck cabin tipped approximately 45 degrees before coming to a stop. The worker was not injured.</p>  <p>The image shows a yellow articulated dump truck that has overturned on a newly constructed roadway. The truck is tilted at a steep angle, with its cabin and front end resting on the ground. The roadway appears to be made of loose soil or sand.</p>	<p>Mine supervisors should conduct frequent physical inspections of mine roadways to identify potential hazards that may pose a risk to plant operators.</p> <p>This is especially important during significant rainfall when the potential for slumping to occur increases.</p> <p>Roadway standards must be documented and include factors such as using competent material, compaction requirements and windrow specifications.</p>

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.

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

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 Resources Regulator publications

- Safety alert [SA22-04 Dangers of lifting and pulling revealed](#)
- Safety alert [SA22-05 Service brakes fail on moving articulated truck](#)
- Safety alert [SA22-06 Operator unable to activate fire suppression system during emergency](#)

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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