Weekly incident summary

Week ending 9 December 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 IncNot0043667 Open cut coal Ground or strata failure 	A haul truck was dumping material when the dump failed and the rear wheels of the truck sank. The body was half raised. Cracking was identified on the dump 14 hours earlier. The dump was cut down as per the mine's trigger action response plan (TARP). The mine was in the process of rebuilding the dump when the failure occurred. 	When conditions warrant a change in TARPs and operating conditions, thorough assessments need to be made before returning to normal operations. Consider the suitability of material when building dumps and when determining if edge dumping or dumping short. All workers should be trained in the use and requirements of relevant TARPs.

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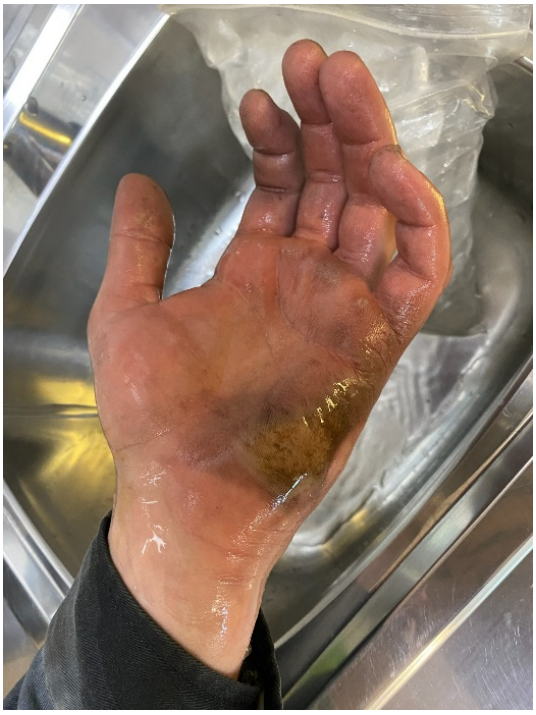
Dangerous incident IncNot0043648 Open cut coal mine Roads or other vehicle operating areas 	A haul truck was reversing at a tip head where it reversed into a dozer, making contact with the rollover protective structure (ROPS). 	There continues to be too many incidents of this type occurring at open cut coal mines. Mine operators should review the hierarchy of controls for managing vehicle interactions at dumps. Segregation between dozers and trucks should be prioritised over administrative controls such as positive communications and procedures.
Dangerous incident IncNot0043628 Open cut coal mine	During a shutdown, a boilermaker was setting up to air arc gouge in a scissor lift. As the scissor lift was raised, the positive lead was pulled apart. While trying to reconnect the welding leads, the boilermaker pulled the insulation boot from the male part of the welding lead to attach vice grips and tried to rejoin the leads. The boilermaker then touched the scissor lift handrail with their hand and suffered an electric shock and burns. An ambulance officer gave the worker an ECG. The worker was cleared, but was taken to hospital to treat the burn on his hand. 	Workers must isolate welders when interacting with electrodes and welding leads. Mine operators should provide suitable equipment and systems. Supervisors should regularly monitor workers for compliance with site controls and procedures when conducting hot work.

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
		

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

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
	International (fatal)
MSHA	On 7 January, 2022, at 2.45 p.m., David Hayden, Jr, a 49-year-old front-end loader operator with 15 years of mining experience, died when a 170-ton rock fell from the mine roof onto the cab of the front-end loader he was operating. He was loading blasted material from the production area at the time of the roof fall. The accident occurred because the mine operator did not use ground support or otherwise control the roof where a geologic fault existed.
	National (other, non-fatal)
Resources Safety & Health Queensland	Recent severe weather worldwide has again highlighted the destructive potential of storms and call for a high level of preparedness. The best way for your site to cope with a storm is to have a plan before it hits. Time and clear thinking are luxuries in an emergency situation, which is why it is so important to be prepared. Storms can damage your business through flooding, high winds, and flying debris. Having

Publication	Issue/topic
	strategies in place to help cope with storms should make it easier for your site to minimise losses, maintain business continuity and recover quickly. The site must ensure adequate resources, facilities and procedures are available before, during and after a storm. Details
Resources Safety & Health Queensland	On 25 April 2021, while working on a dragline shutdown and performing spray painting activities under a confined space entry permit, a coal mine worker became unresponsive and was rescued from inside the revolving frame of a dragline. A second CMW also had to be rescued after they re-entered the confined space to assist with the first rescue. Since that time further investigative testing has been completed by RSHQ, to establish what the airborne concentrations of solvents were likely to have been in the working space, and what role the use gas detectors and the wearing of respiratory protection, contributed to this event. 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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