

Weekly incident summary

Week ending 3 November 2023


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

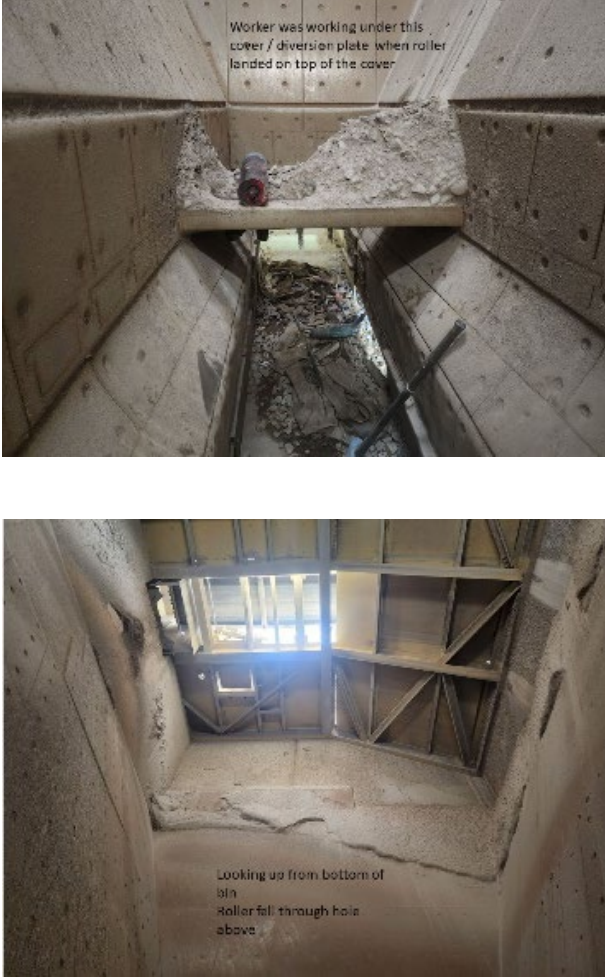
High level summary of emerging trends and our recommendations to operators.

| Type | Number |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Reportable incident total | 53 |
| Summarised incident total | 2 |

Summarised incidents

| Incident type | Summary | Comments to industry |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Dangerous incident IncNot0045710 Opal mining</p> | <p>An opal claim worker fell 7 metres while inside a 14 metre mine shaft entry after the shaft hoist failed.</p> <p>He suffered 2 broken ankles.</p>  | <p>Opal claim holders must ensure that routine maintenance inspections are carried out on critical plant such as hoists, and that repairs are carried out as required.</p> <p>After maintaining and repairing plant, the plant should be inspected, tested and verified as fit-for-purpose before being returned to service.</p> |
| <p>Dangerous incident IncNot0045716 Underground metals mine</p> | <p>A worker was inside a bin replacing skirt liners under a diversion plate. Another worker was replacing rollers on a conveyor above the bin.</p> <p>A conveyor roller fell into the bin and landed on the diversion plate. The roller fell about 11 metres.</p> | <p>The risk of falling objects hitting a person is an easily identifiable risk for which controls need to be put in place before work begins.</p> <p>Work groups must communicate with other work groups in the area</p> |

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| Incident type | Summary | Comments to industry |
|---------------|---|---|
| |  <p>Worker was working under this cover / diversion plate when roller landed on top of the cover</p> <p>Looking up from bottom of bin Roller fell through hole above</p> | <p>to determine if there are interactions or risks between work groups.</p> <p>Documented risk assessments and/or procedures for such tasks should be available and supervisors should ensure that controls are in place and communicated to all workers involved in the tasks.</p> |

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 |
|--|---|
| | <p>National (other, non-fatal)</p> |
| <p>Worksafe Victoria</p> | <p>A Jumbo drill operator was injured when the drill struck live explosives. This resulted in an unplanned initiation and detonation. The drill was boring a development face in an underground metalliferous mine. As the drill was boring the left-hand wall 'knee' hole, the operator heard a loud explosion and sheltered behind the console. Blast gasses and rock fragments were ejected towards the operator who depowered the rig and exited the area. The operator suffered several minor facial lacerations that required medical treatment.</p> <p>Details</p> |
| <p>Resources Safety & Health Queensland</p> | <p>Each year between October and March the average ambient outdoor temperature typically climbs above 30°C and this increases the risk of heat exposure at all Queensland coal mines. At the beginning of this period, persons with safety and health obligations should review the mine's preparedness for managing heat exposure and communicate with coal mine workers, how exposures are to be managed. These obligation holders must ensure that exposures to heat are being effectively managed</p> |

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| Publication | Issue/topic |
|-------------|---|
| | to an acceptable level of risk at their mine sites. Consideration should be given to the developing triggered action response plans (TARPs) for controlling heat exposure on a shift-by-shift basis. 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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| Document control | |
|-----------------------|---|
| CM9 reference | DOC23/366660 |
| Mine safety reference | ISR23-43 |
| Date published | 10 November 2023 |
| Authorised by | Director Regulatory Operations Mine Safety Office of the Chief Inspector |