

Weekly incident summary

Week ending 29 March 2024


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	34
Summarised incident total	3


Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
Dangerous incident IncNot0046613 Underground metals mine Fire or explosion 	<p>After filling a service truck underground, the service truck was trammed back and parked up. The operator noticed a flame in the transmission area of the service truck. The automatic fire suppression system was used to extinguish the flame and a fire extinguisher was used when a secondary flare up was observed.</p> <p>An initial investigation suggested a possible overflow of hydrocarbons during refuelling made contact with hot components of the truck during tramping.</p>	<p>Refuelling systems must be engineered and matched with the fuel tank, breather, and delivery systems. Confirm that overflow piping and breathers direct fuel away from ignition points.</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <p><u>SB21-01 Fires occur while refuelling plant</u></p> <p><u>SB15-03 Fires ignite while refuelling mobile plant with quick-fill fuel systems</u></p>

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
<p data-bbox="113 230 379 302">Dangerous incident</p> <p data-bbox="113 313 379 353">IncNot0046615</p> <p data-bbox="113 365 379 436">Open cut coal mine</p> <p data-bbox="113 448 379 488">Fire or explosion</p> 	<p data-bbox="387 230 986 414">A fitter working on a haul truck in a workshop bumped a can of spray that fell onto the alternator terminals causing a fire. The fitter suffered facial burns and was taken to hospital.</p>	<p data-bbox="994 230 1477 302">The following issues contributed to the incident:</p> <p data-bbox="994 313 1477 465">Before starting work on or around engines when using contact cleaner products, the battery system should be full isolated.</p> <p data-bbox="994 477 1477 667">Alternatives to ‘highly flammable’ sprays should be considered and live alternator terminals should remain covered to prevent inadvertent contact with the terminals.</p>
<p data-bbox="113 757 379 828">Dangerous incident</p> <p data-bbox="113 840 379 880">IncNot0046622</p> <p data-bbox="113 891 379 963">Open cut coal mine</p>	<p data-bbox="387 757 986 940">While pressure testing poly pipe during commissioning, the end cap ejected 50 metres, landing 2 metres from a worker. The failure occurred 20 minutes into a 25-minute test. No-one was injured.</p> 	<p data-bbox="994 757 1477 869">This incident is being investigated and a safety Information will be published shortly.</p> <p data-bbox="994 880 1477 1149">Pressure testing of any welded polyethylene, (or other plastic) pipe, should be carried out in accordance with a safe work procedure (SWP) that is documented and has been endorsed by the mine’s statutory mechanical engineer.</p> <p data-bbox="994 1160 1477 1312">All workers conducting pressure testing should be trained and assessed as being competent in that SWP.</p>

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
		

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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