

Weekly incident summary

Week ending 22 November 2024

This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the 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.

Туре	Number
Reportable incident total	52
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
High potential incident IncNot0048007 Open cut coal mine	Maintenance technicians were working on a haul truck, troubleshooting an automatic hoisting issue by raising and lowering the tray. While raising the tray, the lower hose-end of the left-hand hoist cylinder failed, releasing oil under pressure, and ejecting part of the hose end connection about 38 metres behind the truck.	When developing control measures for the unintended release of mechanical energy, mine operators must consider safe work systems for people dealing with plant maintenance. All potential hazards associated with energy sources need to be identified and controls should be put in place. This is especially important when there is the potential for stored energy to be released without warning.

Incident type

Summary

Comments to industry





Dangerous incident IncNot0048041 Open cut coal mine Roads or other vehicle operating areas

A rear dump truck reversed up to a tip head and began discharging its load when the tip edge slumped, causing the rear of the truck to sink with the slumped material. The dump slumped at a slow rate.

The operator exited the vehicle and was uninjured.

When designing a dump, ground stability should be a primary consideration.

Material consistency, wet conditions and dipping ground stability should be factored into the design. Inspections should verify dump integrity.

Areas that do not meet the standard should be demarcated, communicated to operators, and remediated to meet the standard.

Incident type



Summary



Comments to industry

High potential incident IncNot0048026 Open cut coal mine

A boilermaker was welding a handrail when the worker suffered an electric shock.

The boilermaker made contact with the welder handpiece while leaning on the bench completing the welding task.

The welder was a Tig welder.



Workers involved with welding activities should remain insulated from the welding job. Welding gloves are not electrical insulators. Damp gloves and clothing can increase the likelihood of suffering an electric shock.

Other Resources Regulator publications

Safety Bulletin SB24-09 Safety-critical system failures – steering

In a one-week period in late October 2024, there were 2 potentially serious incidents in which vehicles lost steering and collided with earth walls. Both incidents were the result of hydraulic failure in the steering circuits of mining-specific mobile plant. These incidents highlight the need to

inspect, monitor, and manage safety-critical functions, such as steering, to ensure the safety of workers within or near mobile plant.

Read the full bulletin and recommendations

Other publications of interest

The incidents are included for your review. The 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 (other, non-fatal)
Safequarry UK	A mechanical engineer sustained serious injuries from a fall while working on a conveyor repair
	The mechanical engineer suffered a fractured skull, hip, jaw and pelvis after landing on the concrete floor - 11 metres below. The man fell through a gap after stair treads were removed from a stairway. EMC Elite Engineering Services Ltd, the man's employer, was fined over £50,000 following a prosecution. 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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