

Weekly incident summary

Week ending 6 December 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.

Type	Number
Reportable incident total	47
Summarised incident total	4




Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
Dangerous incident IncNot0048137 Construction materials	<p>A worker suffered an electric shock when he touched a sieve shaker that was affected by water after a storm the previous night.</p> <p>Water entered the area though a large gap in the door.</p>	<p>Mine operators are reminded that they must have arrangements in place to ensure mains-powered, hand-held electrical equipment operates at no more than 250 volts and has an earth leakage of not more than 30 milliamperes sensitivity.</p> <p>Refer to Section 34 Electrical Safety - Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022.</p> <p>The ingress protection (IP) rating is critical in areas with the potential for water ingress and should be maintained as fit-for-purpose throughout its life cycle.</p> <p>Mine operators should consider the use of extra low voltage control systems where possible to mitigate</p>

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
		<p>the risk of electric shock in the event of IP failures.</p>
<p>Dangerous incident IncNot0048160 Open cut coal mine Roads or other vehicle operating areas</p> 	<p>A loaded haul truck drove into mud in the centre of a road and lost control before making contact with a centre bund and crossing the centreline of a road. The truck, being driven by a trainee operator, was travelling down a ramp of about 6% at 46 kmh when the incident occurred.</p> 	<p>Mine operators must undertake appropriate examinations of haul roads after wet weather. Where appropriate, production must stop until a dry line can be graded in or there is appropriate traction available to trucks.</p> <p>Workers must operate vehicles at a speed that is appropriate to the conditions.</p> <p>Engineering controls that minimise the risk of loss of control should be considered, including the use of speed-limiting devices.</p>
<p>Dangerous incident IncNot0048151 Underground coal mine Fire or explosion</p> 	<p>A work crew was travelling inbye at a shift change when they noticed sparking from a return roller. The work crew stopped the belt, and the roller produced a visible flame for a short time before being extinguished.</p>	<p>Mine operators must have systems to identify and change-out defective conveyor rollers. Workers conducting conveyor inspections must be aware of the increased risk of roller failure at high tension areas of conveyors.</p> <p>Mine operators must also diligently inspect for fire risks such as accumulation of material, failing or collapsed idlers and contact between conveyor belts and fixed structures.</p>

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Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
<p>High potential incident IncNot0048167 Underground metals mine Roads or other vehicle operating areas</p> 	 <p>A worker alighted from a light vehicle in an underground area and went to the upside of the vehicle, leaving it unattended. The light vehicle rolled away about 20 metres before colliding with the wall of the opposite drive. The operator then drove the vehicle back up the drive.</p> 	<p>Vehicles must at all times be safely parked as to eliminate the risk of roll away or unplanned movements.</p> <p>Following any incident where a vehicle rolls away, under no circumstances should the vehicle be driven until the issue has been diagnosed and remedied. If the vehicle needs to be moved for repairs, adequate controls are to be implemented to move the vehicle to a safe place.</p>

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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