



**NSW
Resources
Regulator**

Monthly business activities report

MAY 2019



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Activities snapshot

Activities at a glance

SUMMARY OF REGULATORY ACTIVITIES MAY 2019



Key enforcement activities

On 10 May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator commenced prosecution proceedings against Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd and one of its former contract workers for alleged contraventions of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* in relation to a dangerous shot firing incident at its coal mining operation near Mudgee. Six workers were exposed to a risk of death or serious injury when flyrock from mine blasting activities landed near workers located within the mine's prescribed 500 metre personnel exclusion zone – a breach of the mine's blasting rules. Further details can be found in the NSW Resources Regulator [investigation report](#).

On 24 May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator lifted two suspension notices on exploration licences held by mining companies Total Mineral Pty Ltd and Total Iron Pty Ltd. Both Exploration Licences 8625 and 8635 were suspended in December 2018 due to a number of serious compliance issues being identified during an inspection. Statutory notices were also issued to the companies requiring remedial actions be carried out. Following completion of the remedial actions and verification through further site inspection, the Resources Regulator revoked the suspension notices. Further details are published on our [website](#).

Safety incidents of note

The NSW Resources Regulator's [weekly incident summary](#) references any recently published safety publications. The alerts section provides further details about any dangerous and serious safety incident notifications received in May 2019.

Communication highlights

On 1 May 2019, the State's new resources Minister, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro, took his first underground tour at Peabody's Wambo mine in Bulga. The media release is available [here](#).

At the 2019 NSW Mining Exploration Forum on the 8 May 2019, Director of Regulatory Services, Tony Linnane presented on the topic of 'Understanding your WHS obligations' for the NSW Resources Regulator.

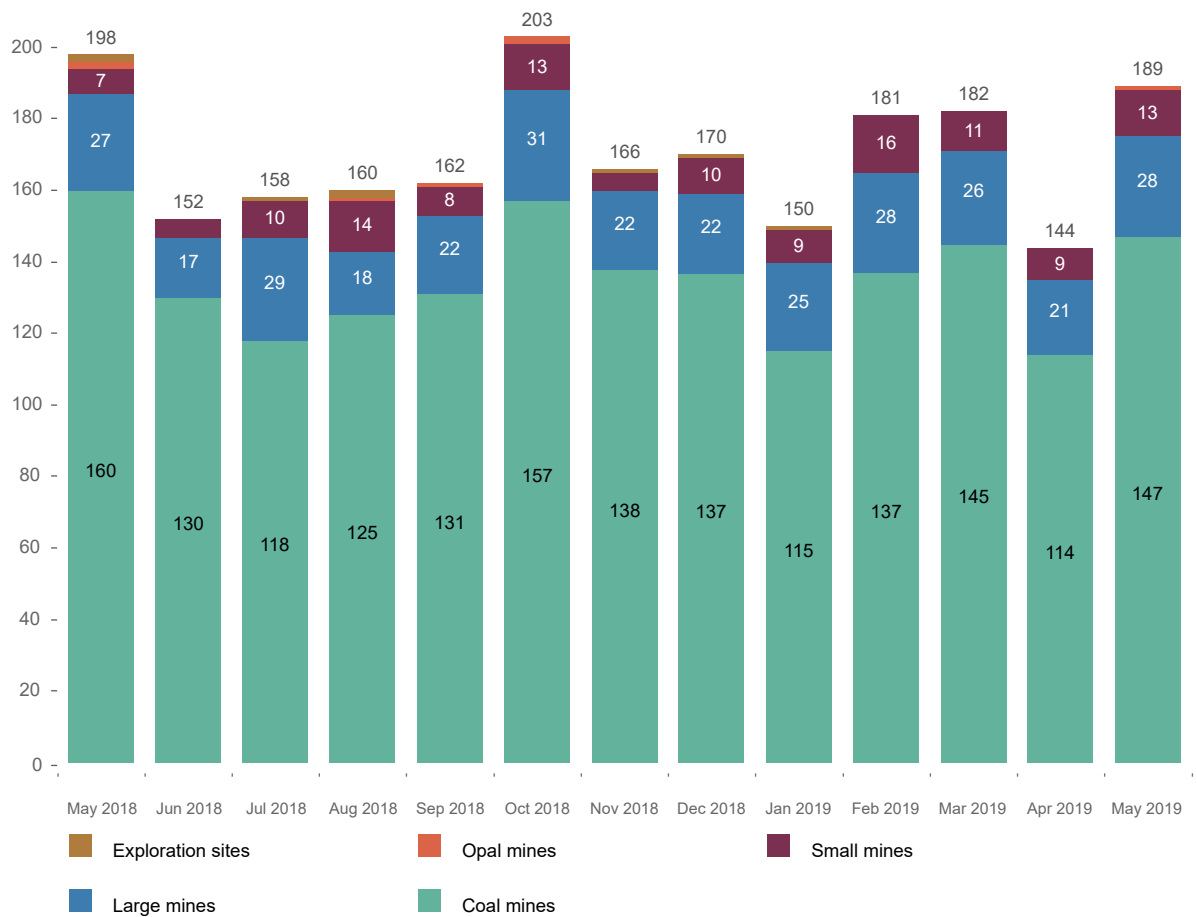
On the 23 May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator urged current and former coal mine workers to maintain regular health screening after the release of its [investigation](#) into a former coal mine worker diagnosed with mixed dust disease in 2017. Further details are available on our [website](#).

Work, health and safety activities

Safety incident notifications received

In May 2019, 189 incidents were notified to the NSW Resources Regulator by mining operations. This was up 45 from the 144 received in April 2019. There were 16 incidents (8%) where the NSW Resources Regulator deployed inspectors for further investigation.

FIGURE 1. SAFETY INCIDENT NOTIFICATIONS BY SECTOR - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019



The NSW Resources Regulator deployed inspectors to the following safety incidents described in the table below.

TABLE 1. DETAILS OF INCIDENTS WHERE INSPECTORS WERE DEPLOYED - MAY 2019

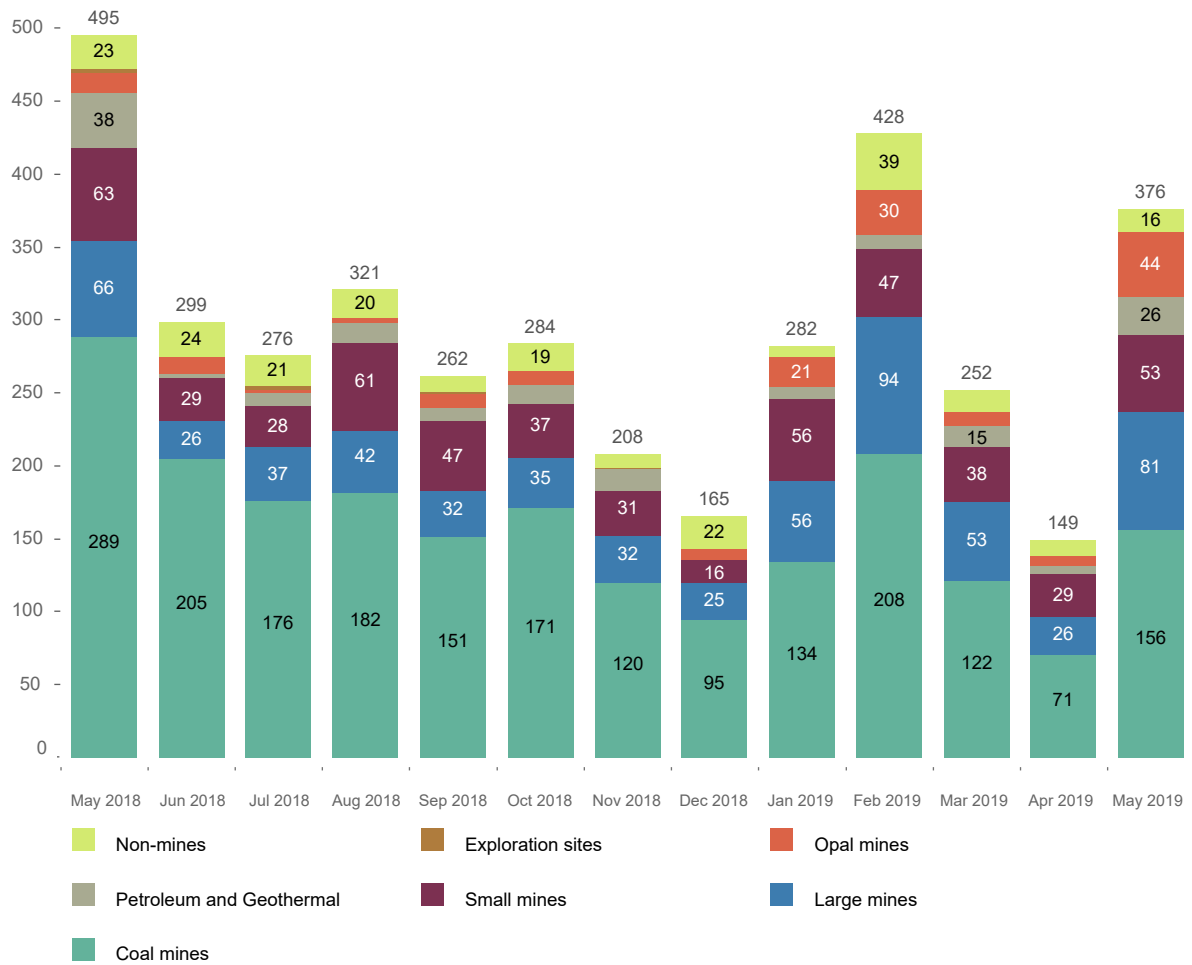
Date notified	Location	Incident
2 May	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A fire occurred on a loader in an underground metalliferous mine. A worker reset a circuit breaker while fault finding, which caused an upstream circuit board to trip, resulting in a short circuit and an electrical fire. The fire was extinguished by a hand-held extinguisher.
6 May	Coal mines	A release of under pressure fluid occurred on a longwall face. A fitter was replacing a hydraulic hose on a roof support which had been damaged by stone. The fitter had isolated and dissipated system pressure. When the staple was removed from the hose, it struck the fitter in the hand. The fluid stream sprayed the fitter, and PPE was dislodged. The fitter was taken to hospital as a precaution and was cleared of injury.
6 May	Coal mines	Whilst inspecting a bulk coal winder following a flask lanyard trip during coal winding operations, an electrician identified friction inserts missing from two of six head ropes. The scene was isolated, and the shift maintenance supervisor and mechanical engineering manager were informed.
7 May	Coal mines	A worker was injured when a compressed air fitting failed. The worker was hammer drilling on air when the fitting broke and air was released. The worker fell off the work platform. The hoses were restrained and did not hit the worker. Another worker shut down the compressor to stop the flow of air. The injured worker was transported to hospital, kept overnight for observation and released the following day.
9 May	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A fire occurred on an integrated tool carrier in an underground metalliferous mine. The fire occurred within the turbocharger and was extinguished by the onboard fire suppression system. The cause of the fire has been attributed to a turbocharger oil line failure and is being investigated by the original equipment manufacturer (OEM).
13 May	Coal mines	A fire occurred in the engine of standby fire pump. The fire was extinguished with extinguishers from vehicles. Fuel was shut off to the engine. The area was barricaded and placed under fire watch until the engine had cooled.
23 May	Coal mines	A goaf flushing shield made contact with a prop-setter support causing it to topple over and fall towards a worker. The injured person lost balance and suffered fractured ribs.

Date notified	Location	Incident
25 May	Coal mines	A load haul dump operator suffered a fractured left cheek bone and injured shoulder after being hit by a loose rib bolt through the operator's cabin. The operator had been towing a sled but pulled over to the rib at an intersection to let another vehicle pass. The operator was taken to hospital.
25 May	Coal mines	An unplanned movement occurred on a mobile elevated work platform at a coal handling plant. The platform was being trammed to a park-up area when it failed to stop. The platform rolled about 20 metres, coming to rest on a flat area.
27 May	Small mines – Metalliferous, Quarries and Other Gemstones	An articulated dump truck rolled in a quarry. The truck was reversing up a narrow ramp onto a clay dump. The truck slid off the ramp and overturned.
27 May	Opal mines	There is substantial ingress of water through open holes on an unused and unregistered claim. The surface appears to be unstable and effect on other claims is unknown.
27 May	Coal mines	A collision occurred between a manned excavator and a dozer, which was operating autonomously. The excavator's ladder was damaged, and the operator required assistance to exit the machine. The operator was not injured.
29 May	Coal mines	Final report was received for respirable quartz dust testing.
30 May	Coal mines	A worker was relocating a lighting plant when the vehicle's braking system failed. The incident was not reported at the time but at a pre-start meeting on a later date. The vehicle and lighting plant have been withdrawn from service.
30 May	Coal mines	A continuous miner was working at a development panel when it unexpectedly rolled backwards. The continuous miner was working on a slope under remote control. The miner rolled backwards about 15 metres. It hit a worker, who fell underneath it. Other workers moved out of the way. No-one was injured.
31 May	Coal mines	A worker was hit by stone on a longwall face at a coal mine. A large slab of roof fell across the pan line and some pieces broke and fell into a walkway. A piece hit an operator on the leg.
Total		16

Safety assessments commenced

In May 2019, a total of 376 safety assessments had been commenced across all mining sectors, up 227 on the previous month. Of the 376 assessments, 156 occurred in the coal sector (41%).

FIGURE 2. SAFETY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES COMMENCED BY SECTOR - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019

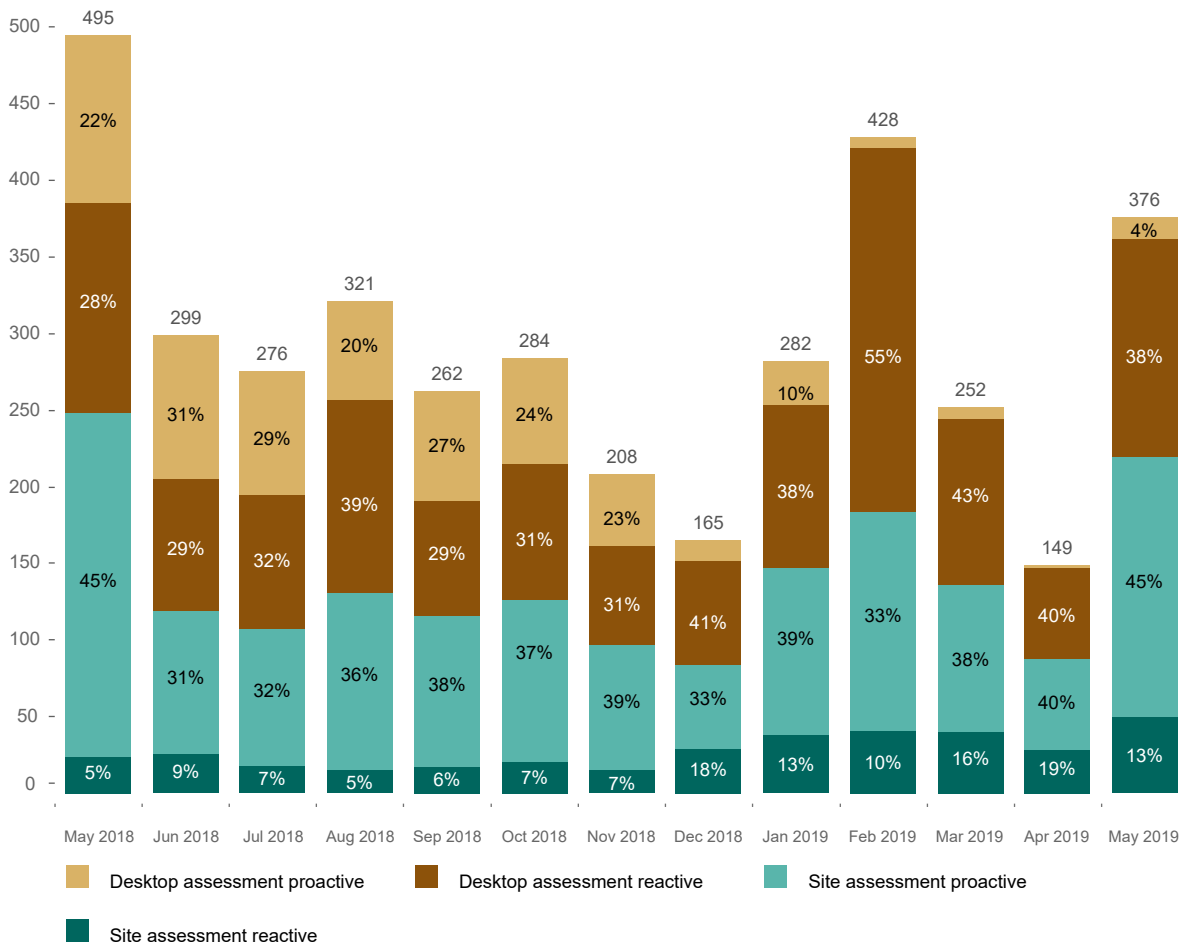


PROACTIVE AND REACTIVE SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

In May 2019, 49% (184) of the NSW Resources Regulator's 376 assessments were proactive.

Proactive assessments include targeted assessment and planned inspections. Reactive assessments include assessments conducted in response to an incident notification, targeted intervention assessments, high risk activities notifications and action requests.

FIGURE 3. SAFETY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES BY NATURE - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019



Safety targeted assessment program

Under the safety proactive assessment program, in May 2019 the NSW Resources Regulator conducted three site-based targeted assessments (TAPs) on three different principal mining hazards. Details are in the table below.

FIGURE 4. SAFETY TAP ASSESSMENTS - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019

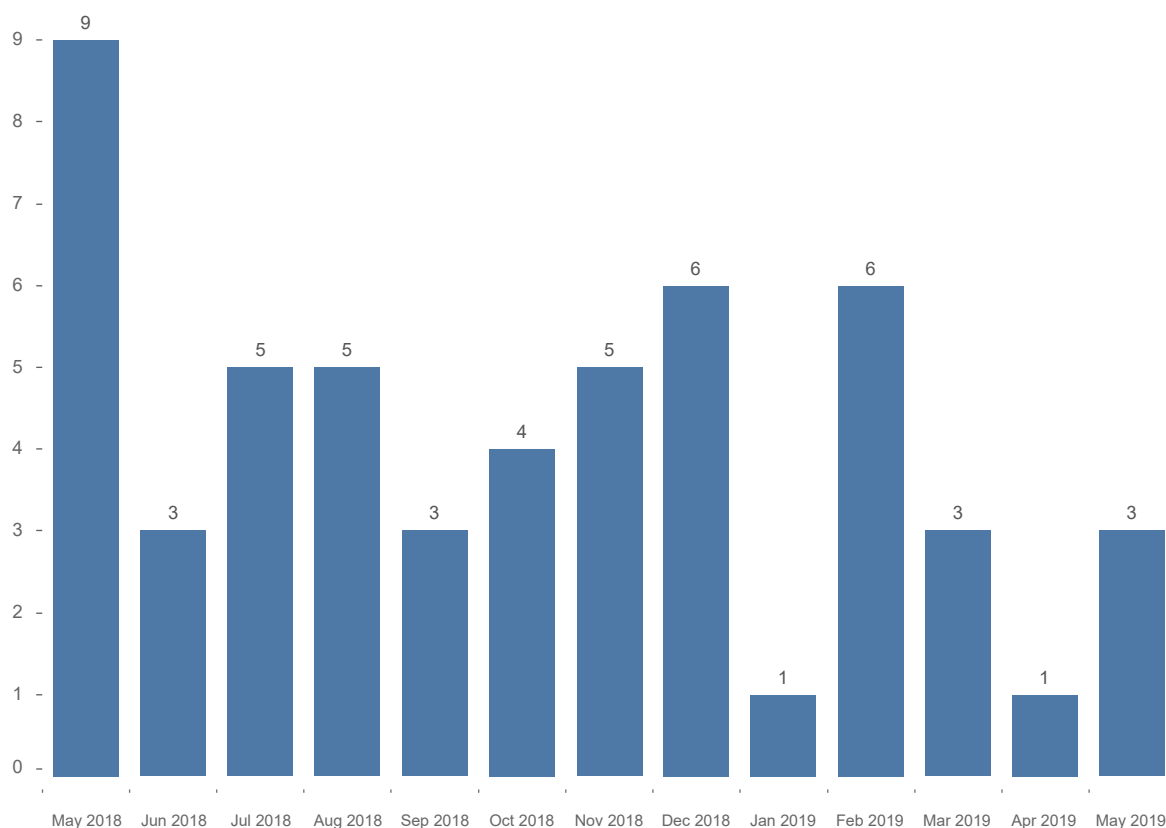


TABLE 2. DETAILS OF TARGETED ASSESSMENTS - MAY 2019

Hazard	Mine
Fatigue	Cadia East Project
Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants	Hunter Valley Operations
Diesel exhaust emissions	Metropolitan Colliery
Total	3

Safety statutory notifications and exemptions

HIGH RISK ACTIVITY NOTIFICATIONS

The figure below summarises high risk activity notifications received by engineering discipline under the Work, Health and Safety (Mines & Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014.

FIGURE 5. HIGH RISK ACTIVITY BY NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED BY ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019

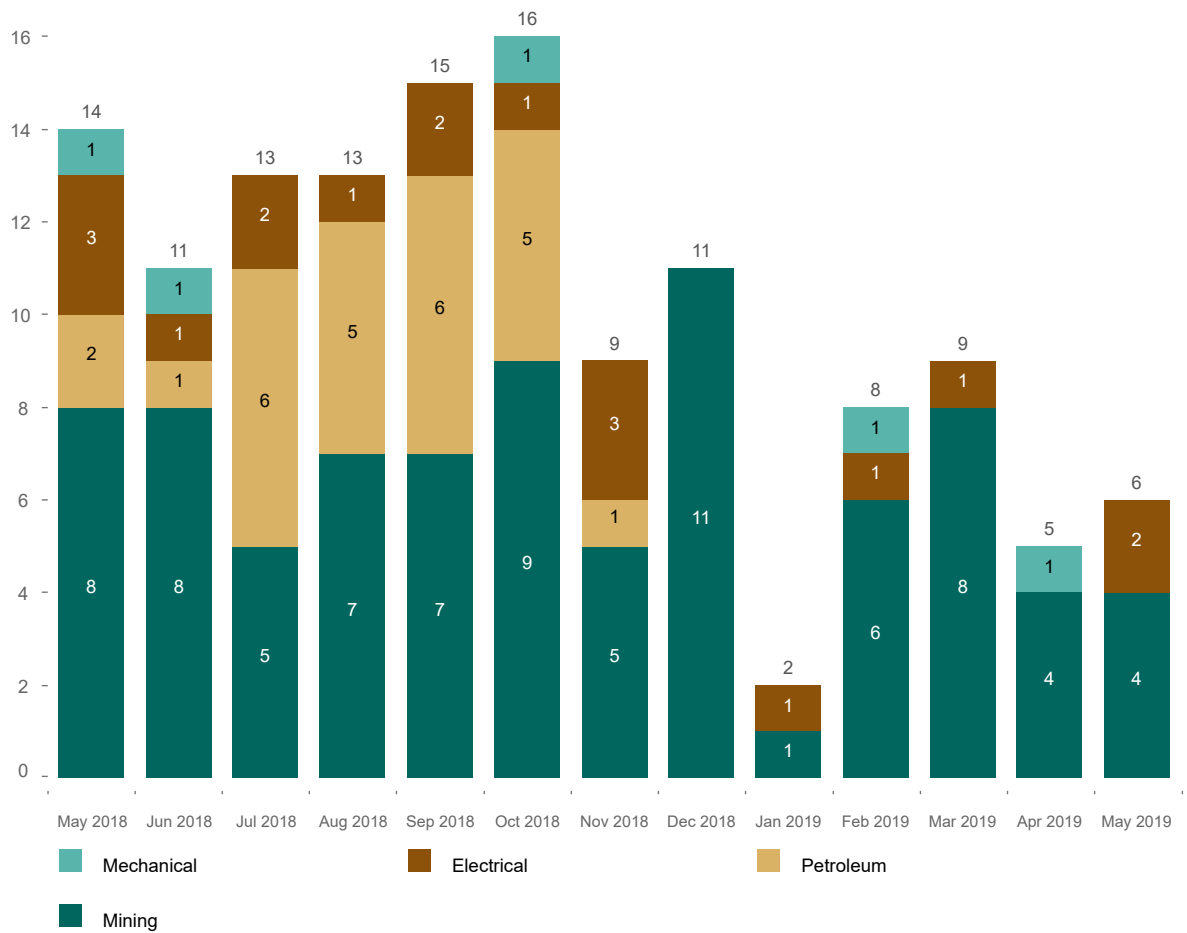


TABLE 3. HIGH RISK ACTIVITY NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED - MAY 2019

Mine	Legislation*	Type of notification	No
Appin Colliery	Schedule 3 Clause 15	Formation of non-conforming pillars.	1
Metropolitan Colliery	Schedule 3 Clause 12	Driving an underground roadway with a width greater than 5.5 metres.	1
Metropolitan Colliery	Schedule 3 Clause 18	Carrying out mining operations in an outburst control zone.	1
Ulan West Operations	Schedule 3 Clause 22	First use of a vehicle with a fire-protected diesel engine.	1
North Wambo Underground	Schedule 3 Clause 10	Sealing (other than emergency sealing), but only if notice has not been given as part of a notice for secondary extraction.	1
Macquarie Coal Preparation Plant	Schedule 3 Clause 27	The establishment, operation or decommissioning of an emplacement area.	1
Total			6

* Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014

EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS

In May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator granted four applications requesting exemption from compliance with specific provisions of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014.

TABLE 4. EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS FINALISED AND GRANTED - MAY 2019

Mine/PCBU*	Details	Status
Dendrobium Colliery	Exemption from having at least two exits to the surface that are trafficable.	Granted
Dendrobium Colliery	Exemption from having at least two exits to the surface that are trafficable.	Granted
Ulan West Operations	Exemption from having at least two exits to the surface that are trafficable.	Granted
Wongawilli Colliery	Exemption from having at least two exits to the surface that are trafficable.	Granted
Total		4

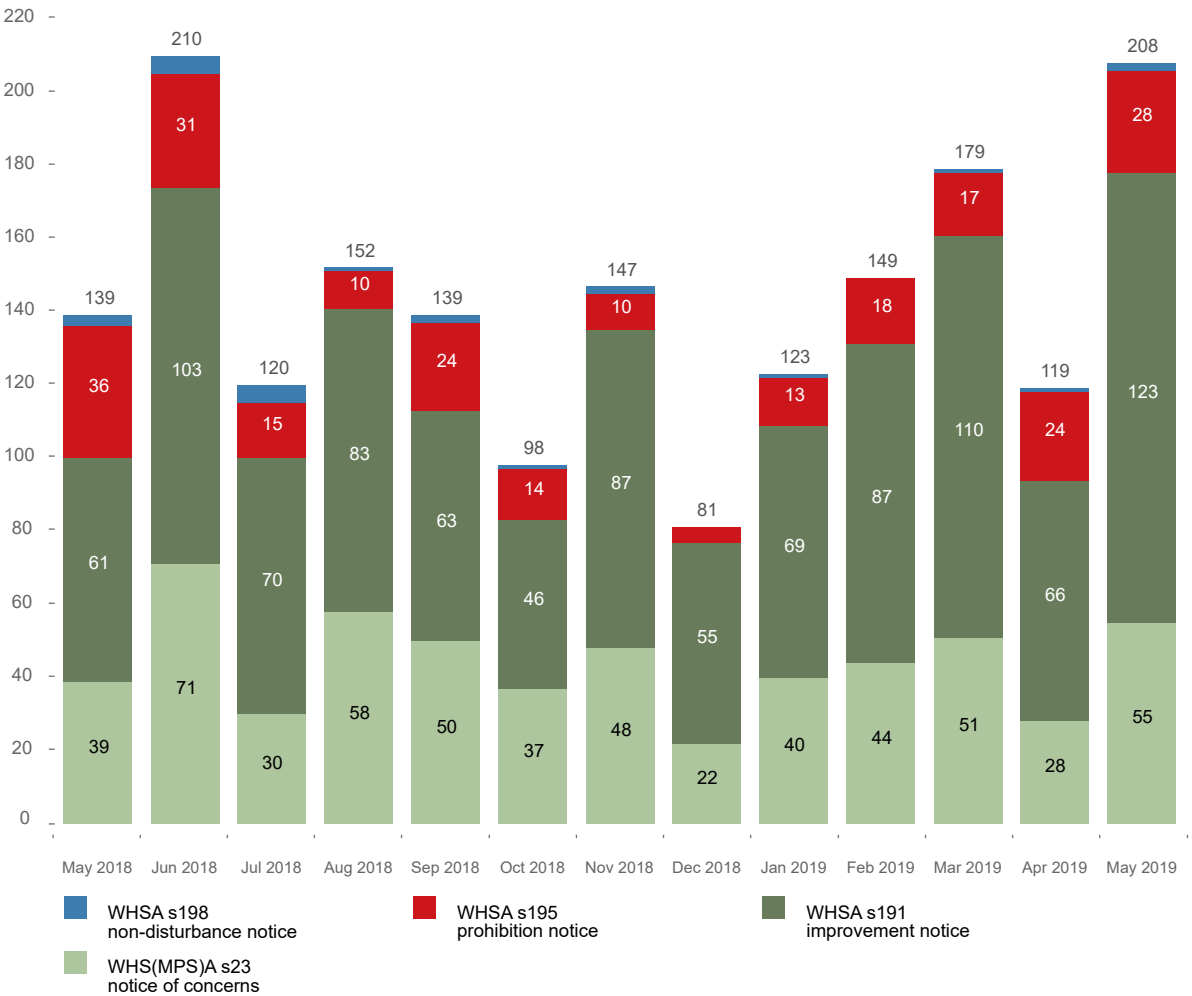
* Person conducting business or undertaking

Compliance activities

Safety notices issued

In May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator issued 208 safety notices, an increase of 89 compared to the previous month's 119 safety notices.

FIGURE 6. SAFETY NOTICES ISSUED BY NOTICE TYPE - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019



Prohibition notices issued

In May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator issued 28 prohibition notices under section 195 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.

TABLE 5. PROHIBITION NOTICES ISSUED - MAY 2019

Issued to PCBU*	Mine	Prohibited activity
Perilya Broken Hill Ltd	North Mine	Operation of the Terex Power screen unit number.
Peak Gold Mines Pty Limited	Peak Gold Mine	All mining activities below the 500 level.
Endeavour Coal Pty Ltd	Appin Colliery	Operation of the Appin North bulk coal winder for either conveying coal to the surface or conveying people.
Peak Gold Mines Pty Limited	New Cobar & Chesney	Use of CAT AD45B Ejector truck in underground areas of the mine until the repair directions have been carried out to the satisfaction of the site mechanical engineer or competent mechanical trades supervisor.
Peak Gold Mines Pty Limited	New Cobar & Chesney	Use of CAT AD55B Haul truck in underground areas of the mine until the repair directions have been carried out to the satisfaction of the site mechanical engineer or competent mechanical trades supervisor.
Peak Gold Mines Pty Limited	New Cobar & Chesney	Use of Volvo IT 0157 in underground operating areas of the mine until the directions have been carried out to the satisfaction of the site Mechanical engineer or competent mechanical trades supervisor.
Peak Gold Mines Pty Limited	Peak Gold Mine	Use of Volvo grader in underground areas of the mine until the repair directions have been carried out to the satisfaction of the site mechanical engineer or competent mechanical trades supervisor.
Gosford Quarries (NSW) Pty Ltd	Debenham Road Quarry - Pattons (Gosford Quarries)	Access to the rear access platform on the Caterpillar D11N dozer.
Rosebrook Sand & Gravel Pty Ltd	Cawsey Park (Rosebrook Sand & Gravel Pty Ltd)	The mine operator must prohibit any person from proceeding onto the engine bay walkway of the Komatsu HM-300-2 Unit number DT04 without a fall protection system in place.
Wollongong Coal Ltd	Russell Vale Colliery	Operation of work in the Bulli Seam workings, where the workers emergency escape system is compromised with out of date self-contained self-rescuers.
HV Operations Pty Ltd	Hunter Valley Operations	Recovery of D11 dozer ID number 560 from the drill face on the R8 bench without a risk assessment being completed.
Archibald Industries Pty Ltd	Palmwoods Quarry	Use of the concrete block lifting device.

Issued to PCBU*	Mine	Prohibited activity
Archibald Industries Pty Ltd	Palmwoods Quarry	Operation of all crushing and screening plant.
Archibald Industries Pty Ltd	Palmwoods Quarry	Working at height activities that are performed on the crushing and screening plant.
Endeavour Coal Pty Ltd	Appin Colliery	The passing of vehicles alongside each other in sections of the transport roads where roadway width is 5.5 metres wide or less.
Cristal Mining Australia	Ginkgo Mineral Sands Mine	Use of CAT 740 haul truck in operational areas of the mine until the repair directions have been carried out to the satisfaction of the site competent mechanical trades supervisor.
Charles Carpenter	Dead Bird Open Cut	Platforms located beyond the operator's cabin doors which are used during maintenance, re-fuelling and prestart activities.
E B Mawsons & Sons Pty Ltd	Mawsons Broken Hill Quarries	No testing of Residual Current Device's (RCD's) or earthing circuits to be conducted at the quarry until the operator complies with notice details.
The Austral Brick Company Pty Ltd	Austral Bricks - Pit 3 & Extension	Use of Bell B40 articulated dump truck for earth moving activities until the directions have been carried out to the satisfaction of the site mechanical engineer or competent mechanical trades supervisor.
Manso Holdings Pty Ltd	Millers Metals West Wyalong	Operation of the bin truck.
Manso Holdings Pty Ltd	Millers Metals West Wyalong	Operation of the forklift (Victory VF70CD1) on site.
Manso Holdings Pty Ltd	Millers Metals West Wyalong	Stop operating the Cat 988H loader (No: MM080).
Tarago Operations Pty Ltd	Woodlawn Mine S(C&PL)L 20	Using the tailings reclaim area lay down yard and the office access road as they are under a power line which could expose workers to the risk of machinery contacting energised power lines.
Lorraine Lewis	Warrego Gypsum	Stop operating the Caterpillar K12 Grader for production activities until the issues have been addressed.
Lorraine Lewis	Warrego Gypsum	Stop operating the Komatsu articulated dump truck. Three points of contact not able to be maintained when entering or exiting the machine or performing maintenance activities on the front end, engine region.



Issued to PCBU*	Mine	Prohibited activity
Lorraine Lewis	Warrego Gypsum	Stop operating the Volvo BM25 articulated dump truck. Three points of contact not able to be maintained when entering or exiting the machine or performing maintenance activities on the front end, engine region.
Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd	Wilpinjong Coal Mine	The entry of personnel or manned mobile equipment within the MineStar SATS Avoidance Zone while the SATS Dozers are operating, or capable of operating, in remote control (RC) or autonomous mode.
Broken Hill Operations Pty Ltd	Rasp Mine	Use of the engine driven portable welder at the mine until direction has been carried out.
Total		28

* Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking



Mining Act 1992 key enforcement actions

In May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator undertook three enforcement actions under the *Mining Act 1992*. This included revoking two suspensions and issuing one penalty notice, details below.

FIGURE 7. MINING ACT 1992 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS FINALISED - MAY 2018 TO MAY 2019

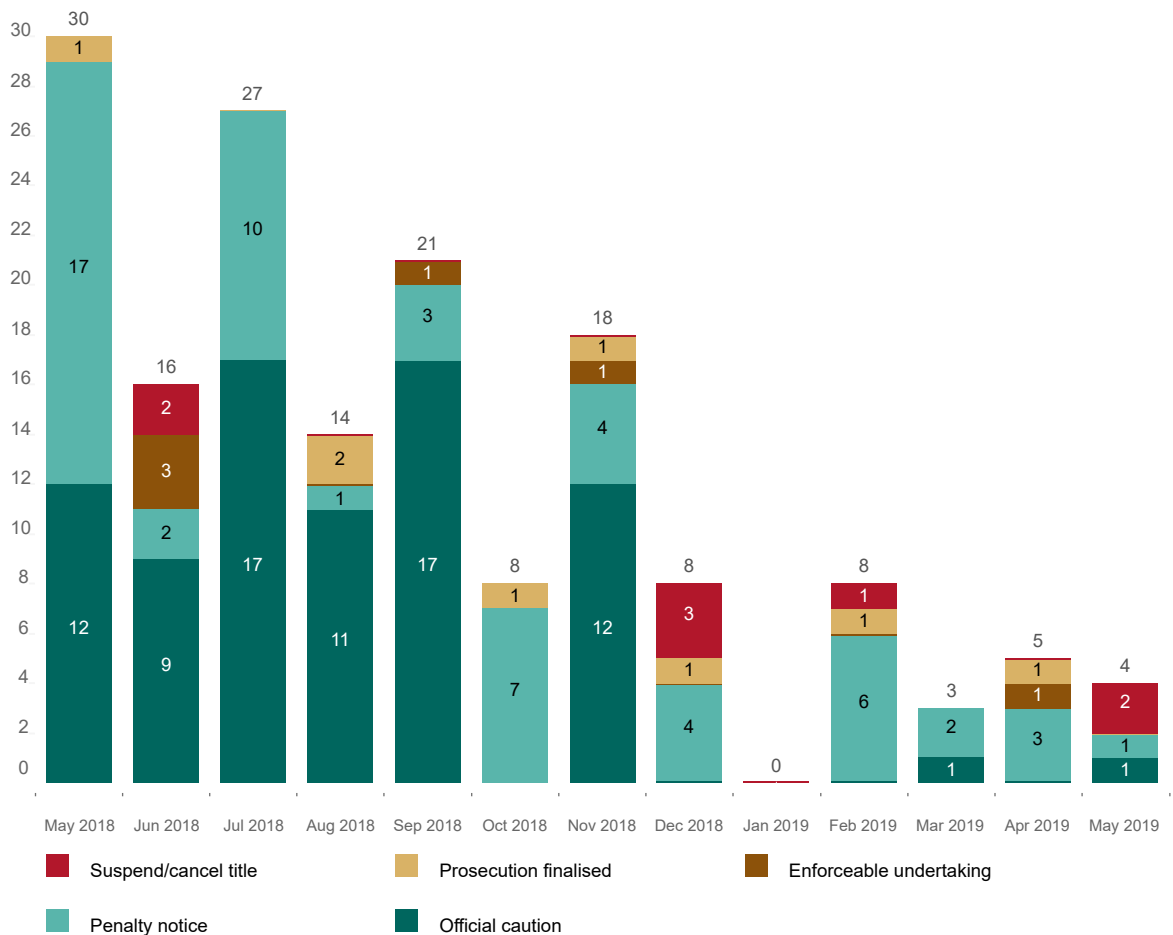


TABLE 6. KEY MINING ACT 1992 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS - MAY 2019

Date	Entity	Authority	Action	Amount	Details/direction
23 May	Namoi Mining Pty Ltd ACN 071 158 373	ML1403	Penalty notice	\$5,000	Failure to comply with directions of section 240 notice of <i>Mining Act 1992</i> .
24 May	Total Iron Pty Ltd ACN 167 004 104	EL8635	Suspension revoked	N/A	Suspension was revoked on 24 May 2019 after confirmation that the operator had complied with the section 240 notice complied with and environmental controls had been implemented.
24 May	Total Minerals Pty Ltd ACN 169 328 090	EL8625	Suspension revoked	N/A	Suspension was revoked on 24 May 2019 after confirmation that the operator had complied with the section 240 notice complied with and environmental controls had been implemented.
Total					3



Industry engagement activities

The NSW Resources Regulator's industry engagement activities for May 2019 are outlined below.

WORKSHOPS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS

TABLE 7. WORKSHOPS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS - MAY 2019

Date	Type of activity	Location	Details
1 May	Education	Lightning Ridge	Opal miners Safety Awareness Course.
2 May	Education	Lightning Ridge	Opal miners Mine Operators Course.
8 May	Engagement	Lightning Ridge	Met with local NSW Police, SES and NSW Ambulance.
9 May	Communications forum	Cobar	Presentations and discussions on electrical performance of industry and topical issues with metalliferous electrical engineers and supervisors.
14 May	Industry Forum	Dubbo	Facilitate the Metex Emergency Response Team working group meeting, held at Dubbo.
16 May	Mine Managers of Electrical Engineering	Penrith	Engaging mine Managers of Electrical Engineering from Southern and Western Districts.
16 May	Communications forum	Penrith	Presentations and discussions on electrical performance of industry and topical issues to Southern and Western districts electrical engineers for open cut and underground coal.
17 May	Mine Managers of Electrical Engineering	Singleton	Engaging mine Managers of Electrical Engineering from Northern Districts.
17 May	Communications forum	Thornton	Presentations and discussions on electrical performance of industry and topical issues to Hunter Valley electrical engineers for open cut and underground mines.
24 May	Industry meeting	Penrith	Meeting for underground mechanical engineers.
29 May	Inspection / Emergency Services Consultative sessions	Helensberg	Attended multi-agency emergency response simulation, training event conducted in conjunction with NSW Police, Fire Rescue NSW, Rural Fire Service NSW and NSW Ambulance.

Date	Type of activity	Location	Details
30 May	Presentation	Cessnock	Presentations on electrical performance of industry and topical issues to electrical safety and health representatives.
31 May	Discussion	Maitland	Meeting with representatives of RTO (Strategic Training Services) to answer questions on the maintenance of competence scheme.
Total			13

COMMITTEES AND OTHER INDUSTRY BODY INVOLVEMENT

In May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator participated in the following committees and working groups.

TABLE 8. COMMITTEES AND OTHER INDUSTRY BODY INVOLVEMENT - MAY 2019

Date	Type of activity	Details
8 May	Construction Mining Equipment Industry Group	The NSW Resources Regulator attended and provided future direction and position on fires on mobile plant equipment.
8 May	Government Occupational Hygienist Group	Discussion on silica.
9 May	AS3584.2	Australian standards committee meeting.
14 & 15 May	AS3584.1	Australian standards committee meeting.
14 May	JAS-ANZ ANZEx Rules Working Group	Revision of the rules for the ANZEx scheme for certification of equipment for use in explosive atmospheres.
15 May	Southern and Western mine Electrical Engineers	Presentation of changes to the NSW Resources Regulator portal.
17 May	Hunter Valley Electrical Engineers MEMMES	Presentation of changes to the NSW Resources Regulator portal.
21 May	Mining and Petroleum Competence Board	Observer and to present papers.
22 May	Government Radio Network User Group	Scheduled meeting of the Government Radio Network User Group held in Bankstown. Quarterly meeting for agencies using the GRN regarding issues, coverage updates, technical issues and changes to pricing and TELCO Authority policy and administration.

Date	Type of activity	Details
22 May	National Policy Community of Practice	National Laws Review; Responses to inquiries.
23 May	Project Working Group – Skills for Australia review of Mine Emergency Response & Rescue units	Member of Project Working Group for review of Certificate III Mine Emergency Response and Rescue qualification and other units. Ongoing project representing the NSW Resources Regulator on working group.
24 May	Mechanical Engineers	Presentation of changes to the NSW Resources Regulator portal.
28 May	Construction Mining Equipment Industry Group	The NSW Resources Regulator attended and provided future direction and position on fires on mobile plant equipment.
Total		13



Publications and alerts

In May 2019, the NSW Resources Regulator published 14 media releases, news articles and safety alerts on our website.

TABLE 9. MEDIA RELEASES, SAFETY NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS - MAY 2019

Date	Type	Summary
1 May	Media release	New resources Minister meets female recruits at Wambo
19 May	Media release	Resources Regulator investigating incident at Maules Creek Coal Handling and processing plant
22 May	Media release	Court for Moolarben coal operators after dangerous shot firing incident
23 May	Media release	Regulator urges dust health checks
28 May	Media release	Resources Regulator revokes suspensions on exploration leases near Grafton
7 May	Weekly incident summary	Weekly incident summary week ending 26 April
8 May	EDM*	Mine Safety News
10 May	Weekly incident summary	Weekly incident summary week ending 2 May 2019
17 May	Weekly incident summary	Weekly incident summary week ending 10 May 2019
17 May	EDM*	Mine Safety news
23 May	EDM	Mine Safety news
24 May	Weekly incident summary	Weekly incident summary week ending 17 May 2019
31 May	Weekly incident summary	Weekly incident summary week ending 24 May 2019
31 May	EDM*	Call for presenters
Total		14

* Electronic distribution mailing list

