



Planning &
Environment
Resources Regulator

NSW Resources Regulator

Monthly business activity
report: September 2017



Vision

**A safe and
responsible mining,
extractive and
petroleum industry**

Mission

**To enable and
support industry
to understand and
fulfil its obligations**

Key activities

The Resources Regulator issued prohibition notices to Centennial Coal's Mandalong coal mine and to Glencore's Tahmoor Colliery in September. Both notices were issued following incidents where methane gas levels reached 3.5% at Mandalong and 4.04% at Tahmoor, and workers were not withdrawn from the underground workings in accordance with the mine's response plans. Further, key real time gas monitoring was not operational at Tahmoor at the time.

The prohibition notices were revoked following detailed investigations into the cause and circumstances of the incidents and the Resources Regulator being satisfied that appropriate risk controls were put in place to ensure workers at the mines were not exposed to risk.

The regulator also issued its findings into the management of gas outburst risks in longwall mining as part of its targeted intervention program (TIP). The TIP summarises the findings of assessments undertaken in relation to managing gas outburst risks during the longwall extraction process. The assessments were undertaken in July and August 2017, and have been completed at three coal mines in the southern coal fields.

Applications for practising certificates opened on 1 September 2017. Holders of a certificate of competence need to apply for a practising certificate to exercise specific statutory functions as required under the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014.

Finally, more than 100 Mine Safety and Health Representatives from the Illawarra, Lithgow/Mudgee and Hunter Valley regions, attended the annual Mine Safety and Health Representatives Seminar, at the Crowne Plaza in Newcastle on 13 September 2017. The seminar was opened by Chief Compliance Officer, Anthony Keon, who gave an overview of the NSW Resources Regulator's approach to mining health and safety.

An appeal was also commenced in the New South Wales Court of Criminal Appeal in relation to the sentence imposed on Macmahon Mining Services Pty Ltd (MMS) following the death of a worker in 2013. In August 2016, the regulator successfully prosecuted MMS in the District Court of New South Wales, for a breach of sections 32 and 19(1) of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011. MMS was sentenced to a fine of \$75,000 and ordered to pay the regulator's costs in the proceedings, and an appeal has now been filed in relation to the quantum of the sentence handed down.



NSW Planning and Environment has taken all care to ensure the accuracy, completeness and reliability of the information provided in this report. Nothing in this report impacts any duties held by any person under legislation administered or enforced by the department. Compliance with the legislation is a legal requirement. Some persons may have a right of internal or external review of decisions made under the legislation administered or enforced by the department.

Activities

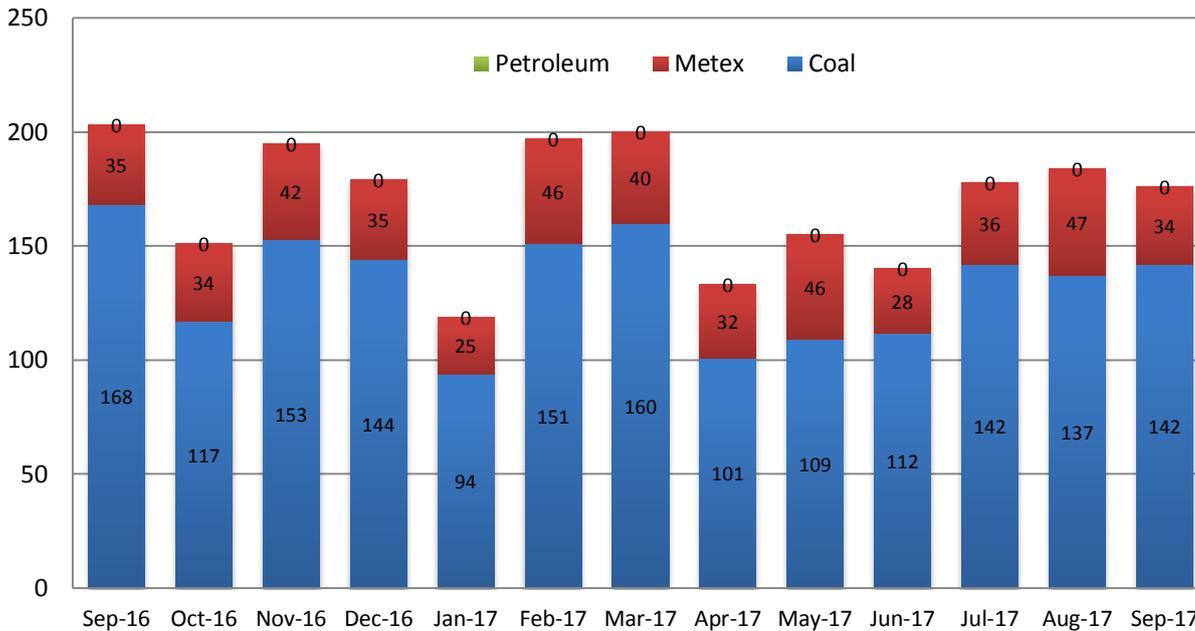
Below is a snapshot of the NSW Resources Regulator's activities for September 2017.



Incidents

Incident classifications and weekly incident summaries are available on our [website](#).

Chart 1: Incidents notified to the Resources Regulator by sector.



Inspections, audits and targeted assessments

Reports on our compliance activities are available on our [website](#).

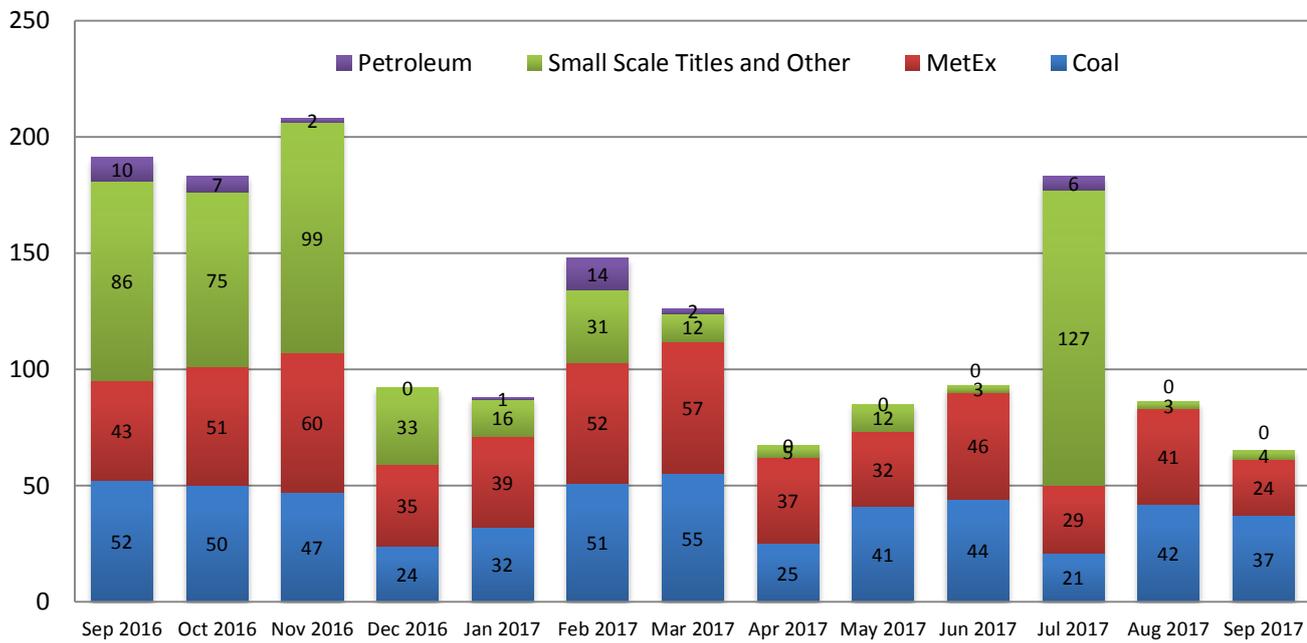
Targeted assessments undertaken in September 2017

Mine	Type	Topic
North Wambo UG	Site assessment	Explosion suppression
Chain Valley Colliery	Site assessment	Explosion suppression
Northparkes Mine	Site assessment	Airborne contaminants
Dendrobium Colliery	Close out meeting	Respirable dust
Hera Mine	Site report	Airborne contaminants
Ravensworth Operations	Site assessment/site briefing	Fatigue surface coal
Clarence Colliery	Site briefing	Emergency management
Myuna Colliery	Site briefing	Diesel exhaust emissions
Springvale Colliery	Site briefing	Diesel exhaust emissions
Endeavour Mine	Site briefing	Emergency management
Metropolitan	Site assessment	Explosion suppression

Mine	Type	Topic
Ulan West	Site briefing	Diesel exhaust emissions
Mandalong Mine	Site briefing	Diesel exhaust emissions

Safety inspections

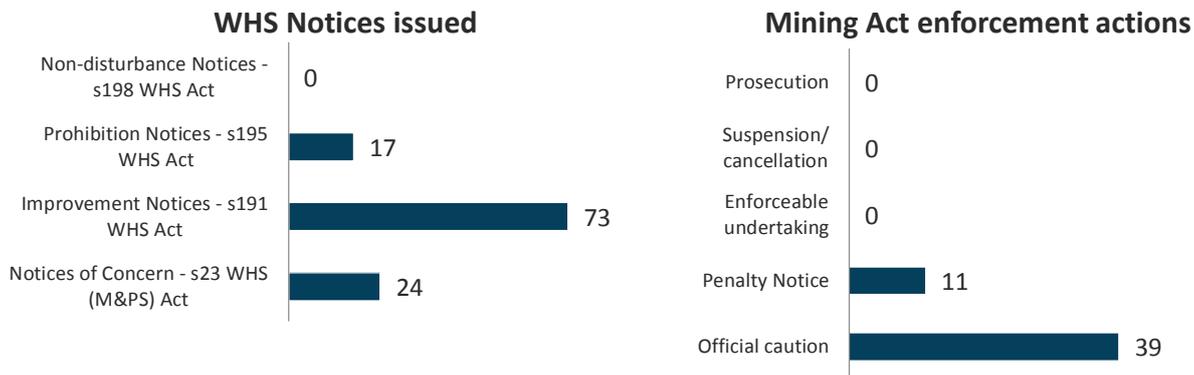
Chart 2: Safety inspections carried out by the Resources Regulator by sector.



Enforcement actions

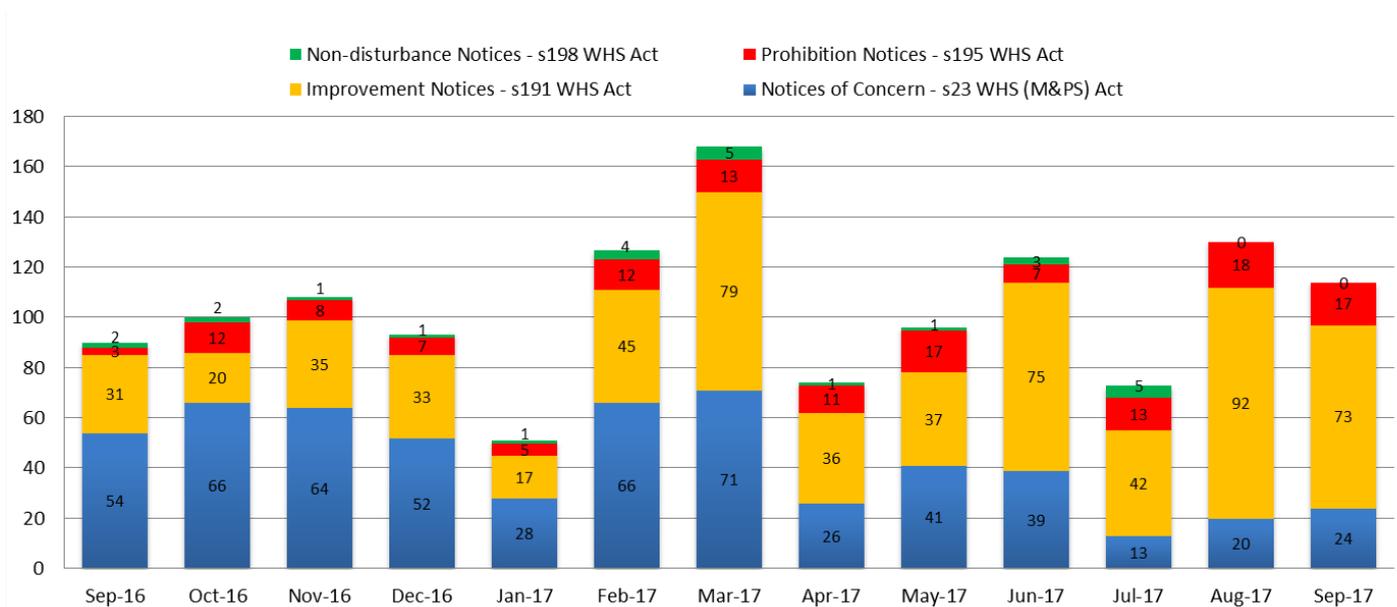
Our [Compliance and enforcement approach](#) is available on our website.

Chart 3: WHS notices issued and Mining Act enforcement actions taken in September 2017.



WHS notices

Chart 4: WHS notices issued by the Resources Regulator.



Prohibition notices issued in September 2017 (WHS leg)

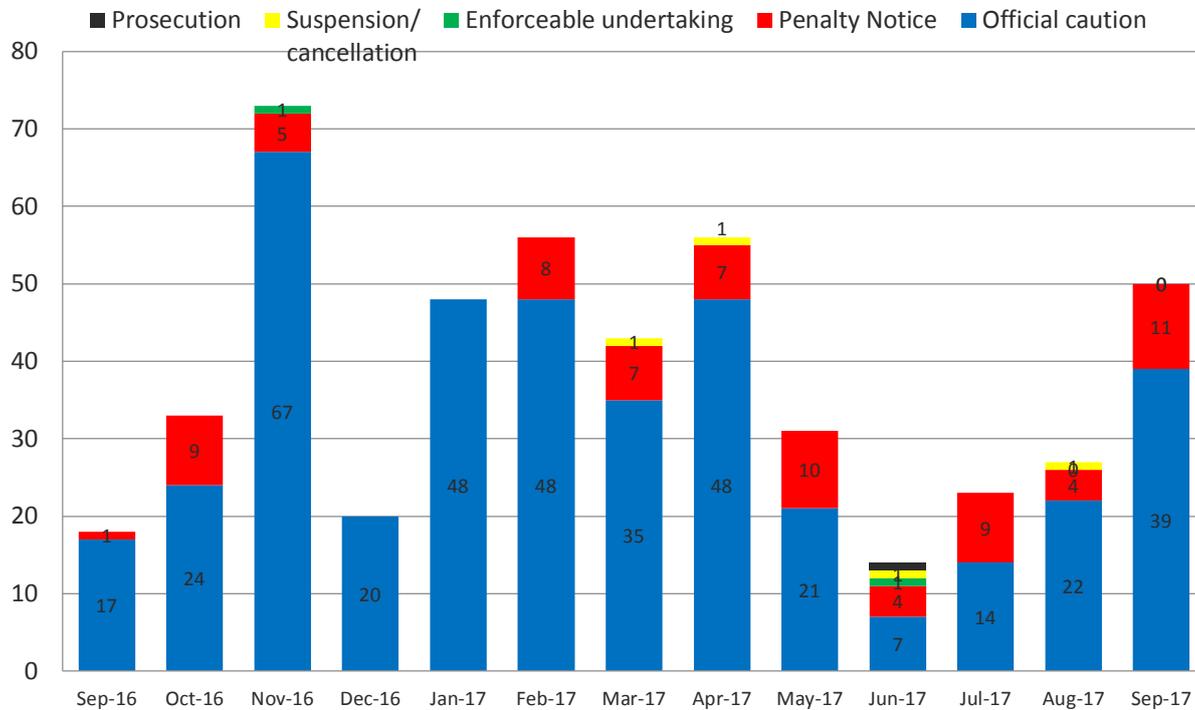
PCBU	Mine	Details	Prohibited activity
Larmon Pty Ltd	Sunsalt Mourquong Operation	A site inspection took place which identified that the small grader was not fit for use.	The operation of the small grader on site is prohibited.

PCBU	Mine	Details	Prohibited activity
Ulan West Operations Pty Ltd	Ulan West Operations	An investigation took place into the cause and circumstances of the failure of the steel structure connection between the flexible conveyor train / dynamic move up and the conveyor tail pulley frame.	Operation of equipment involved in the incident, including the CV105 conveyor system and dynamic move up unit is prohibited.
Centennial Mandalong Pty Ltd	Mandalong Mine	An investigation took place into a reported gas exceedance arising from damage to a gas drainage line.	All activities requiring workers to be underground are prohibited except for the purposes of inspection and maintenance activities.
Andys Earthworks Pty Ltd	Sydney Sandstone Quarry	During a planned inspection of dust and airborne contaminants it was found that the Hyster forklift had no seatbelt.	Use of the yellow Hyster forklift is prohibited.
Centennial Mandalong Pty Ltd	Mandalong Mine	An investigation took place into a reported gas exceedance arising from damage to a gas drainage line.	All activities requiring workers to be underground are prohibited except for the purposes of the bolt-up of Longwall 22 and conducting of inspections.
Tahmoor Coal Pty Ltd	Tahmoor Colliery	An investigation took place into a report of a gas exceedance.	Entry of persons to the underground parts of the mine is prohibited except for inspection or maintenance purposes.
Dargues Gold Mine Pty Ltd	Dargues Gold Mine	A notification for a high risk activity was received.	The development of new mine entry as notified to the Regulator is prohibited until the safety management system and associated risk assessments are submitted to the Regulator.
Longwall Haul (Aust) Pty Ltd	Appin Colliery	During recommissioning of the MH40, the machine reported a failure of ExDES plant.	Use of the CAT MH-40 hauler is prohibited.
S & L Aboud	Bredbo Sand and Soil	An inspection at site identified that the screen and stacker had a number of guards missing and no pre-starts or maintenance records.	The Chieftain screen and mobile stacker are prohibited from being used for any screening activity at the quarry.

PCBU	Mine	Details	Prohibited activity
LakeCoal Pty Ltd	Chain Valley Colliery	A notification for a high risk activity was received.	The mine is prohibited from secondary extraction of the miniwall blocks known as CVB2 and CVB3.
Cobar Management Pty Ltd	CSA Mine	An investigation took place following a combustion incident at the mine.	Further blasting of the face in 8085-404 cross cut is prohibited until the incident investigated and a safe system of work devised.
Tomingley Gold Operations Pty Ltd	Tomingley Gold Mine	A dangerous incident occurred when a dump truck reversed through the dump truck window causing the rear wheels to slump on the rill and raise the front tyre.	Haul trucks are prohibited from tipping directly over a tip head bund at the mine.
Centennial Newstan Pty Ltd	Newstan Colliery	An investigation took place into a gas exceedance at the mine.	Entry of workers to the underground parts of the mine is prohibited except for the purposes of inspections and safety works.
Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd	Wilpinjong Coal Mine	A dangerous incident occurred when a dozer rolled backwards over a bench.	The activity of high wall pushover by a dozer.
Moolarben Coal Operations	Moolarben Coal Operations - Underground	An investigation took place into an inrush incident.	A continuous miner 'holing an existing roadway' is prohibited at the Mine until an investigation has taken place and actions implemented to prevent a reoccurrence.
Cadgee Enterprises Pty Ltd	Cadgee Quarry	An unannounced inspection of the site identified tail drum and emergency stop button on conveyor not working and guards missing.	The operation of fixed plant is prohibited.
Perilya Broken Hill Limited	Perilya Broken Hill Southern Operations	An investigation into an incident involving the main cage winding system was undertaken.	Use of the main cage winding system for the purpose of transporting people (other than for the purposes of investigating the incident or recommissioning activities) is prohibited.

Enforcement actions under the Mining Act

Chart 5: Enforcement action taken by the Regulator under the Mining Act.



Penalty notices issued and other significant actions taken (Mining Act)

Date	Status	Actions	Details
5 September	Glenella Quarry Pty Ltd	Penalty notice, \$5000	Mining minerals without authorisation under Sec 5.
6 September	Nimrod Resources EL7013	Penalty notice, \$1000	Fail to pay rent and levy fees
6 September	Nimrod Resources EL7089	Penalty notice, \$1000	Fail to pay rent and levy fees
8 September	Crowl Creek Exploration Limited EL8275	Penalty notice, \$5000	Fail to lodge Final Exploration Report
13 September	Far Western Stone Quarries Pty Ltd ML 56	Penalty notice, \$2500	Fail to pay rehabilitation security bond.
25 September	Golden Cross Operations Pty Ltd EL7320	Penalty notice, \$1000	Fail to pay rent and levy fees,

25 September	Resource Pacific Limited ML1398	Penalty notice, \$1000	Fail to pay rent and levy fees,
25 September	Kepeco Bylong Australia Pty Ltd Auth 287	Penalty notice, \$1000	Fail to pay rent and levy fees, Sec 292
25 September	Kepeco Bylong Australia Pty Ltd Auth 342	Penalty notice, \$1000	Fail to pay rent and levy fees, Sec 292
26 September	MC52381	Penalty notice, \$2500	Fail to comply with direction issued under s240 of the Mining Act
29 September	PLL3859	Penalty notice, \$2500	Fail to comply with direction issued under s240 of the Mining Act

Statutory notifications and exemptions

Information about WHS statutory [notifications](#) and [exemptions](#) is available on our website.

High risk activity notifications received

Mine	WHS (M&PS) Regs provision	Activity
Austar Coal Mine - Underground Operation	Schedule 3, clause 10	Sealing.
Dendrobium Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 12	Driving underground roadway that is wider than 5.5 metres.
Moolarben Coal Operations - Underground	Schedule 3, clause 13	Widening underground roadway to more than 5.5 metres.
Narrabri Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 27	Emplacement areas.
Narrabri Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 13	Widening underground roadway to more than 5.5 metres.
PAL0002 Bibblewindi 20	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PEL0002 Rosalind Park 2	Schedule 3, clause 32	Decommissioning a well.
PEL0002 Wandinong 1	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PEL0002 Wandinong 5	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PEL0002 Wandinong 6	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.

PEL0238 Bohena 7	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PPL0004 Elizabeth Macarthur 16	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PPL0004 Glenlee 16	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PPL0004 Menangle Park 11	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.
PPL0004 Menangle Park 5	Schedule 3, clause 33	Suspending a well.

Mine	WHS (M&PS) Regs provision	Activity
PPL0004 Menangle Park 5	Schedule 3, clause 32	Decommissioning a well.
Russell Vale Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 27	Emplacement areas.
Tahmoor Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 15	Formation of non-conforming pillars.
Tahmoor Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 29	Barrier Mining.
Teralba Colliery	Schedule 3, clause	Sealing.
Ulan West Operations	Schedule 3, clause 13	Widening underground roadway to more than 5.5 metres.
West Wallsend Colliery	Schedule 3, clause 10	Sealing.

Exemptions granted

There were no exemptions granted in September.

Workshops and education activities

Details of upcoming events are available on our [website](#).

Date	What	Where	Details
5 September	Meeting	Sydney	A meeting of all Inspectors of mechanical engineering was held. A presentation on fires on mobile plant was given by the Chief Mechanical Inspector from the Queensland Regulator, which is relevant to a current compliance priority project.
6-7 September	Seminar	Sydney	Mechanical Engineering Safety Seminar
11-12 September	Safety awareness course	Lightning Ridge	Opal miners' awareness of safely carrying out mining activities - 25 attendees.
13 September	Seminar	Newcastle	Industry Safety and Health Representatives seminar held.
13 September	Mine operators course	Lightning Ridge	Opal mine operators course for new mine operators - 30 attendees.
15 September	Presentation	Parkes	Underground supervisor briefing session presented to seven candidates.
20 September	Liaison/consultation	Appin Colliery	Attend and participate in multi-agency awareness and consultation day at Appin mine, event attended by Police, Ambulance, Fire Rescue, Mines Rescue and Local Council.
20 September	Presentation	Fire Rescue Headquarters	Presentation to Government Radio Network Users Group regarding Resources Regulator usage of GRN systems in Lightning Ridge during recent operation as requested by Telco Authority for awareness of working group.

Publications and alerts

Our [public comment policy](#) is available on our website.

Date	Details
1 September	Mine Safety News: Practising certificates applications now open
1 September	Mine Safety News: Work Health and Safety Regulation commences today
7 September	Weekly Incident Summary
8 September	Media release: Resources Regulator issues prohibition notice to Mandalong
8 September	Mine Safety Update: Safety bulletin: reuse of removable filters on explosion protected diesel engines
12 September	Media release: Resources Regulator issues prohibition notice to Tahmoor Colliery
13 September	Mine Safety Update: Safety alert – Response times of gas detectors
14 September	Weekly Incident Summary
20 September	Mine Safety Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation information release – Unintended movement of conveyor boot end • Targeted intervention program report – gas outburst risks • New fact sheets available • Electrical Engineering Safety Seminar in Sydney
21 September	Weekly Incident Summary
28 September	Weekly Incident Summary
29 September	Mine Safety Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worker exposure to diesel exhaust emissions • Fall of ground risk in underground metalliferous mines • Expressions of interest open for new Mining and Petroleum Competence Board member • Expressions of interest open for new MSAC members