

SAFETY ALERT



FATAL ROOF FALL

INCIDENT

A mine worker was fatally injured while erecting roof supports in front of a roadheader machine.

CIRCUMSTANCES

The roadheader was driving a cut-through in coal when production stopped to allow mesh and bolts to be installed. The roof bolts were being installed using a hand-held bolter. The workman appears to have been struck by roof strata in front of the last support.

INVESTIGATION

The accident is being investigated and the cause has not yet been determined.

RECOMMENDATIONS

All mines using similar equipment should immediately review their operations.

The review should take into account:

1. Safe position of persons and equipment
2. Temporary roof support
3. Alternative methods and equipment

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Regan".

R Regan
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAFETY OPERATIONS

Find Safety Alerts at: <http://www.minerals.nsw.gov.au/safety/safalert.htm>