

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 20 March 2020


This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the NSW 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	30
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATIONS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0036980 Underground coal mine	<p>An air operated bolting rig dislodged from the spill plate of the AFC mounting and was thrust back into the longwall walkway.</p> <p>The operator of the bolting rig jumped out of the way but was struck on the wrist. It appears the cradle was not properly attached to the pan line spill plate.</p> 	<p>Operators must ensure that control measures are in place to manage the risks associated with the dissipation of mechanical energy.</p> <p>Safe work systems must be developed for people dealing with plant - including pre-inspections that identify and check mechanical safeguards used to prevent the dissipation of mechanical energy.</p> <p>Mitigating controls such as No-Go zones should be established in consideration of the energy present.</p>

Dangerous
Incident
IncNot0036988
Underground
metals mine



Fire or explosion

An underground loader was in idle mode when the operator saw smoke and flames at the back of the machine. The operator activated the fire suppression system and extinguished the fire. It appears that the fire may have started in the exhaust box.



The cause of this fire has not yet been established.

For further information refer to our dedicated website page about [fires on mobile plant](#).

Refer to our position paper: [Fires-on-mobile-plant-position-paper-October-2019](#).

Dangerous
Incident
IncNot0036991
Underground
coal mine

While spraying a ventilation stopping with aquacrete, an operator was sprayed on the forearm. This occurred when he tried to release a hose blockage.

The grout pump had been stopped for a while and upon restarting, the hose appeared to be blocked. The operator turned off the air at the main valve and was undoing a camlock fitting, when the grout released and struck him on the forearm.



Mine operators should review how workers and supervisors are trained in recognising the potential hazards associated with all energy sources. This is especially important when there is the potential for unexpected stored energy, associated with blockages, to be released without warning.

Other publications of interest

The incidents are included for your review. The NSW 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 (fatal)
MSHA	Mine Fatality
	<p>On 27 February 2020, a mine worker died when an unsecured 20'x8'x1" steel plate, standing on edge, fell and struck him. The steel plate was being used to cover the end of a feeder to allow an equipment operator to build an earthen ramp to the feeder.</p> <p>Details</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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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (March 2020). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment or the user's independent advisor.

DOCUMENT CONTROL	
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