

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 05 March 2021

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	46
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0039327 Open cut construction materials	A worker sustained a laceration that required stitches when a broken chain-link became a projectile and hit the worker on the side of the head. Workers were lifting a wing on a jaw crusher when one of the lifting chains snapped.	When repairs and maintenance are being carried out, safe standing zones must be established to account for any failures. Potential hazards associated with all energy sources should be identified, including the stresses and strains introduced by lifting equipment on plant. This is especially important when there is the potential for stored energy to be released without warning. Chains must have a suitable load rating for the lifting task.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0039365
Underground coal
mine



Ground or strata

A roof fall occurred at an intersection in an underground coal mine. The fall was in an outbye area of the mine and extended into the cut-through, blocking the travel road.

All personnel were safely evacuated and there were no injuries.



This incident is under investigation and further information may be published at a later date. Underground mines should review the adequacy of their strata monitoring arrangements and associated trigger action response plans (TARPs), to ensure that workers are not exposed to unacceptable risks associated with strata failure.

Refer to:

- [NSW code of practice: Strata control in underground coal mines](#)

Dangerous incident
IncNot0039384
Underground coal
mine



Fire or explosion

An excavator operator jumped clear of the cabin to escape a fire that engulfed his machine. The operator did not have time to activate the fire suppression system and the cabin was destroyed. The position and extent of the fire indicates catastrophic engine failure, potentially caused by ruptured fuel or oil lines outside the engine envelope. The fire propagated forward towards the fuel tank, with evidence of significant heat around the main boom pivot. The excavator recently underwent a major overhaul.



This incident is under investigation and further information may be published at a later date.

Other Resources Regulator publications

Safety Alert - [SA21-03 - Underground loader makes contact with development drill rig \(jumbo\)](#)

Other publications of interest

These 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 (other, non-fatal)
MinEx NZ	<p>Worker sprayed with battery acid</p> <p>A contractor's excavator was found to have a dead battery. This was plugged into a RAPID 480 charger/starter. After being on charge, the battery exploded, spraying battery acid onto the operator. The operator had correct PPE and was not seriously injured.</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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