

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 2 July 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	32
Summarised incident total	2

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0040210 Underground coal mine	During a maintenance period, two separate crews were working on the longwall belt. The first crew, at 5 cut through, isolated and locked out using the remote isolation system. The second crew, at 3 cut through, later isolated and locked out at a different location, using the same remote isolation system. When the first crew removed their locks and isolation, the deputy called the control room operator to start the belt. The pre-start warning sounded and the belt began moving while a person at 3 cut through was standing on the belt. Another worker pulled the lanyard which operated a switch and stopped the belt. There were no injuries. Preliminary	Mines should review the maintenance and testing of remote isolation systems. Workers should be trained to identify when remote isolation has been successfully applied and when it has failed.

investigations indicate the remote isolation point at 3 cut through had internal damage, making it ineffective.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0040223
Underground coal
mine



Fire or explosion

A deputy, carrying out underground conveyor belt inspection, found hot embers and a small flame. Both were caused by an empty 20 litre oil drum wedged under the moving conveyor return belt.



Historically, fires in underground coal mines have led to significant human tragedy and loss. Any fire should be extinguished as quickly as possible. Mine operators should ensure that risk control measures to prevent the occurrence of fires, and the escalation and response to underground fires, are implemented and remain effective. Inspection regimes, housekeeping standards and emergency response procedures should be routinely examined to ensure minimum standards are met or exceeded.

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
	National (other, non-fatal)
Resources Safety and Health, Queensland (Mineral Mines and Quarries)	High potential incidents – April periodical Details

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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