

# Weekly incident summary

## Week ending 10 February 2023

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 | 37     |
| Summarised incident total | 3      |

### Summarised incidents

| Incident type   | Summary  | Comments to industry  |
|---|--|---|
| Dangerous incident<br>IncNot0044036<br>Open cut coal mine<br>Roads or other vehicle operating areas | A light vehicle was travelling along an access road at 3.40am when the vehicle left the road and rolled. It is believed that the operator had a fatigue event. The worker exited the vehicle without injury. | Workers must present as fit-for-work. Fatigue and fitness for work must be managed in accordance with the mine’s health control plan. This includes ensuring workers show up to work with adequate sleep and are free of alcohol and drugs. Adequate fatigue breaks should be built into shift patterns and work plans.<br><br>Mine operators should review that adequate windrows are in place where vehicles are at risk of driving over embankments. This should be consistent with the mine’s roads and other vehicle operating areas – principal hazard management plan. |



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| Incident type   | Summary  | Comments to industry  |
|---|--|---|
| <p data-bbox="113 197 395 235">Dangerous incident</p> <p data-bbox="113 241 395 280">IncNot0044042</p> <p data-bbox="113 286 395 324">Open cut coal mine</p> <p data-bbox="113 331 395 414">Roads or other vehicle operating areas</p>       | <p data-bbox="400 197 1018 459">A Hitachi EH 5000 electric drive dump truck had just been loaded and was leaving a loading area. At the base of the ramp, the left-hand side final drive mounting bolts broke and separated from the axle box of the truck. This caused the dual wheel assembly to detach from the truck. The operator was uninjured and safely exited the truck.</p>    | <p data-bbox="1023 197 1479 414">Plant and equipment must be maintained in accordance with <a href="#">Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 clause 213 Maintenance and inspection of plant</a>.</p> <p data-bbox="1023 421 1479 593">Non-destructive testing (NDT) inspections should be scheduled at pre-determined intervals to minimise the risk of equipment failure.</p>         |
| <p data-bbox="113 898 395 936">Dangerous incident</p> <p data-bbox="113 943 395 981">IncNot0044061</p> <p data-bbox="113 987 395 1025">Open cut coal mine</p> <p data-bbox="113 1032 395 1115">Roads or other vehicle operating areas</p>  | <p data-bbox="400 898 1018 1164">A dozer was on the left-hand side of a dump. The dozer was stationary. A haul truck operator with 8 weeks' experience approached the tip head and did a U turn before reversing to the dump. The dozer operator attempted to contact the truck operator to warn of their presence but was unsuccessful. The truck's right rear tyre made contact with the front right corner of the blade.</p>  | <p data-bbox="1023 898 1479 1070">Mine operators should continually review the suitability of collision avoidance technology as it evolves, and new products become available.</p> <p data-bbox="1023 1077 1479 1272">Operators should prioritise segregation between dozers and haul trucks on dumps over lower order controls such as positive communication and work procedures.</p> |

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**Note:** Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this safety alert and are informed of its content and recommendations. This safety alert should be processed in a systematic manner through the mine's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the mine's common area, such as your notice board where appropriate.

Visit our [website](#) to:

- find more safety alerts and bulletins
- use our searchable safety database

## Other Resources Regulator news

### Safety Bulletin SB23-01 Explosion risk of battery units for underground electric vehicles

The use of lithium-based chemistries in battery design is rapidly increasing. There has been a corresponding increase in incidents involving equipment fitted with these batteries.

Read the full Safety Bulletin on our [website](#)

### 2023 Annual certificate of competence exam panels meeting

The 2023 Annual Examiner Panels meeting was held at Hunter Valley Mines Rescue Station Singleton on 1 February with 33 attendees both in person and online from all panels.

This meeting covered off a range of information including a review of the blueprinting approach project by an external consultant, an update on the partial pausing of blueprinting for upcoming exams to June 2023, with some calendar changes shortly. There were also refreshers on processes and improvements, including managing COVID, revised conflicts of interest management and an online induction program for new examiners under development.

The meeting also recognised Tony Israel for his outstanding service, as he will be stepping down from the convenor role of OCE and Mining Engineering Manager panels after the post oral exams shortly.

If anybody is interested in becoming an examiner they can contact the Manager Andrew Palmer [mca@regional.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mca@regional.nsw.gov.au) or calling 1300 814 609 (option 2 > option 3) or go to the Regulator website [examiners page](#).

## 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   |
|-------------|---|
|             | <b>International (fatal)</b>  |
| MSHA        | USA - On January 14, 2022, Jeffrey Phillips, a 44-year-old contract labourer with over 13 years of mining experience, was fatally injured when he fell from an elevated work location. The accident occurred because the contractor (NexGen Industrial Services Inc.) did not assure that miners used safety belts and lines while working from an elevated work location. A final report has been issued.<br><br><a href="#">Details</a> |

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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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|-----------------------|---|
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