



**NSW
Resources
Regulator**

MONTHLY BUSINESS ACTIVITIES REPORT

January 2020



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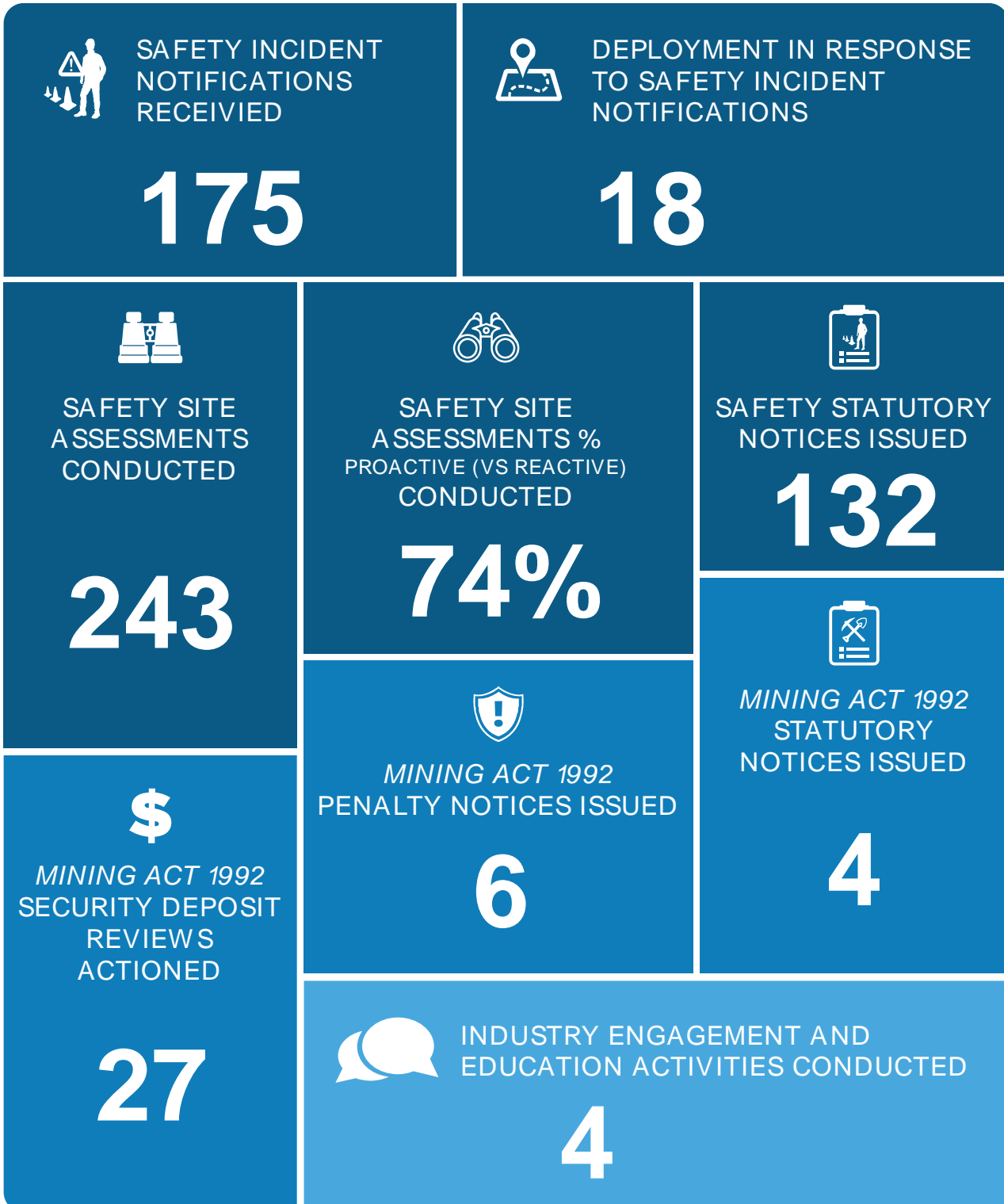
Disclaimer: The data in this report was extracted from the NSW Resources Regulator's compliance database on **5 February 2020**. However, users are reminded that since then, new information January have been received. If you are concerned about the currency of any of the information in the report, please check with the appropriate officer at the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

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Activities at a glance

Summary of our regulatory activities January 2020



Safety incidents of note



Related principal hazard - road or other vehicle operating areas.

A service truck was descending a recently watered ramp at a surface coal mine. It slid for about 50 m but then gripped on the dry line of the ramp and overturned on to the driver's side. The operator was not injured. Training on driving in wet conditions should be provided to all personnel who operate rubber-tyre, heavy mining equipment. Management plans and procedures should identify ramp and cresting speed limits. Recommendations from Safety Bulletin SB18-09 - Overwatering of roads leads to vehicle incidents should be reviewed and fully implemented.



Related principal hazard – fire or explosion (fire on mobile plant)

A haul truck caught fire while travelling up a decline at an underground metalliferous mine. The cause of the fire was an internal failure in a recently rebuilt engine. A mine investigation identified the tappet cover breather caps were modified from a metal cap that was held in place with a circlip, to a plastic cap held with silastic. This allowed the over-pressured engine oil to escape and contact the hot engine. The original equipment manufacturer (OEM) is investigating the engine failure. When equipment modifications occur, mine operators must confirm that adequate change management processes are followed. This will ensure that any new risks are identified, and additional controls are implemented to reduce the risk to plant, equipment and workers. Engine breather caps should be checked and confirmed to be suitable, as specified by the OEM.



Related principal hazard – fire or explosion

A shotfirer loaded a shot and notified it was ready to be fired at an underground metalliferous mine a truck and a loader were within in the exclusion zone. The shotfirer incorrectly assumed both operators were together when the truck exited the exclusion zone and removed both their tags. The shot was then fired but the loader operator was within the exclusion zone and there were no injuries or damage. It was identified that the mine was relying on the contractor's blasting procedures, however the contractor's procedures did not include the mine's specific details. Mine operators must have clear and effective blasting procedures that are specific to individual mines. They should also remind workers that personal tags are only to be removed by the person they are issued to.



Related principal hazard - road or other vehicle operating areas.

A worker is reported to have suffered spinal injuries after driving a light vehicle over an edge at an open cut coal mine. The worker drove off an open edge (inactive shovel face) approximately 14m while conducting blast sentry clearance. The light vehicle landed nose first before coming to rest on its roof. The driver was able to extract themselves from the light vehicle and called the emergency. Inspectors and investigators were deployed to the site and have begun an investigation into the matter.

The NSW Resources Regulator's [weekly incident summary](#) references any recently published safety publications.

Work health and safety activities

Safety incident notifications

FIGURE 1. SAFETY INCIDENT NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED BY SECTOR - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

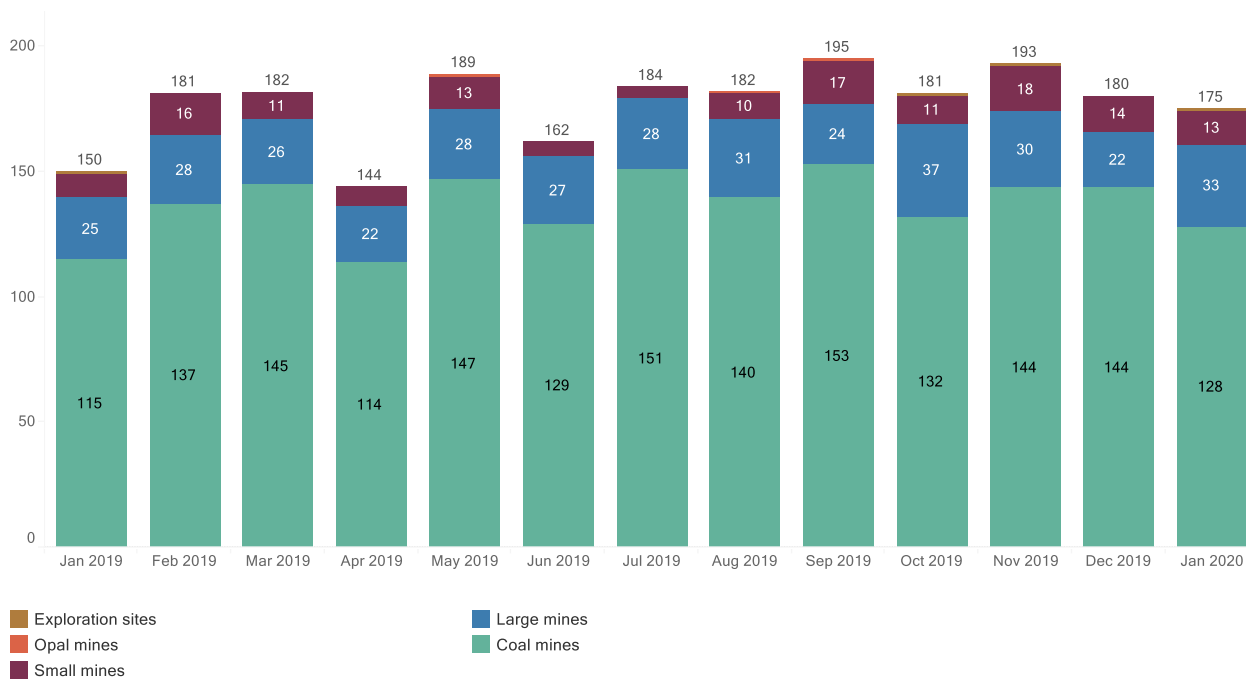


TABLE 1. DETAILS OF SAFETY INCIDENTS WHERE INSPECTORS WERE DEPLOYED - JANUARY 2020

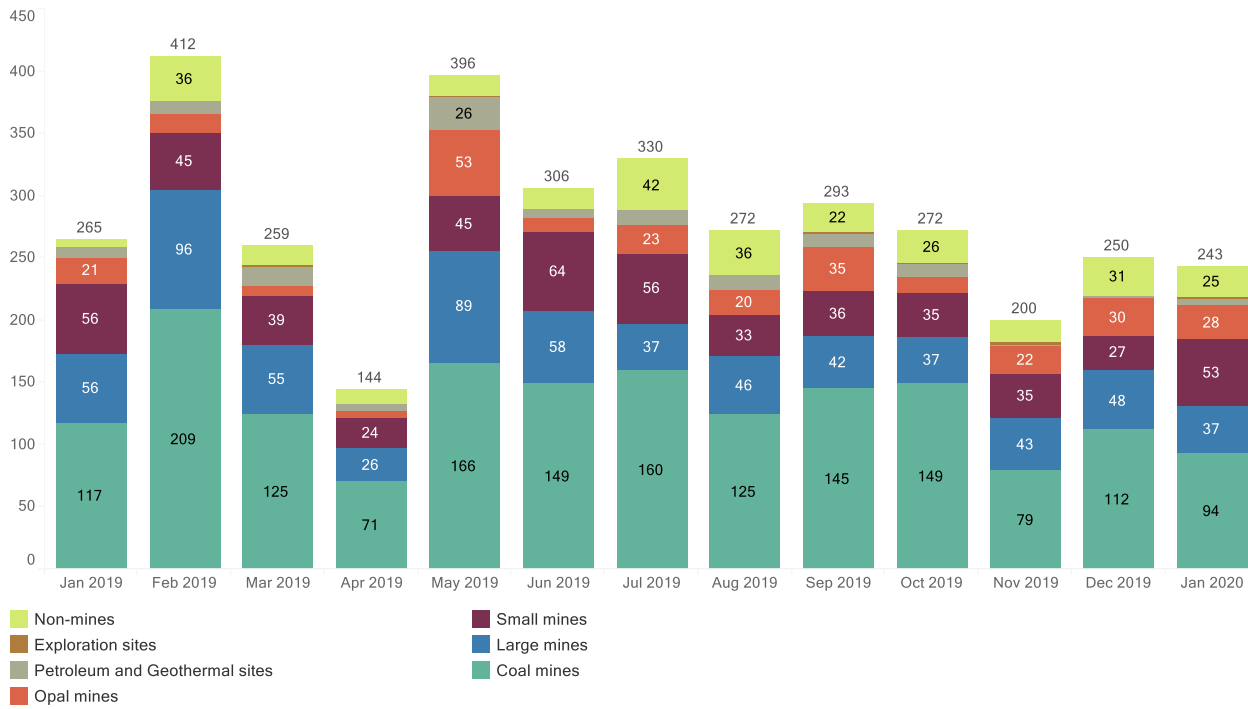
Date notified	Sector	Incident
1 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	Fallen ground in supported area. No-one was in the vicinity at the time.
4 January	Coal mines	Loader contacted a loaded shot contacting one down line with a tyre. Holes were primed awaiting loading. The shot firers were loading the shot at the time and made the area safe to recover the operator.
9 January	Coal mines	A drill operator pulled up in a light vehicle and exited the vehicle. The light vehicle then rolled approximately 50m, over a bund and down a 4m slope and continued approximately another 15m before coming to rest. No one was seriously injured.
9 January	Coal mines	A CAT 775D Service truck was descending a ramp that had been recently watered. The truck began to slide for approximately 50 metres then gripped on the dry line of the ramp resulting in the truck overturning on to the driver's side of the vehicle. The operator was able to call the emergency and exit the cab un-aided. The operator was attended to by first aid officers but was not injured.
10 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A crew noticed smoke coming from the engine bay covers of L120 Volvo IT vehicle which was parked in-pit. The crew opened the covers of the machine and noticed a small piece of industrial cleaning wipe smouldering. The industrial cleaning wipe caught fire when the engine bay covers have been opened, it is thought that introducing more air into the area by opening the engine bay covers has caused the industrial cleaning wipe to catch fire. The industrial cleaning wipe was removed from the engine bay and the fire was put out on the ground. There were no injuries.

Date notified	Sector	Incident
10 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A fire occurred on a loaded concrete agitator as the vehicle was parked in the decline as it was unloading cement onto the spray rig. The operator noticed sparks from under the bonnet of the truck. The truck stopped and the fire was extinguished by the on-board fire suppression.
11 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A truck caught fire while travelling up the decline (at 4,465 level). It was reported that the oil cap had blown out with oil spraying onto the engine which then caught fire. Mine evacuation initiated with all persons below the 4,465 level were moved into refuge chambers. All persons were accounted for by the shift boss. There were no injuries with a fire watch in place with personnel remaining in the refuge chambers until the truck cooled down.
13 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A shot had been loaded. The Shotfirer called on the radio from the tag board at 9500 level that he was about to fire the shot. A truck and loader were still both in the exclusion zone. When the truck arrived at the tag board the Shotfirer wrongly assumed that the Loader operator was also in the truck and removed both tags from the board. The shot was fired at the 9100 level while the Loader operator was at 9400 level. There were no injuries or damage.
13 January	Coal mines	The 6060 excavator had been top loading overburden to coal, after loading truck 901 with first bucket the excavator was swung back to face when it contacted 013 dozer lift ramp. The dozer was undertaking clean-up at the time when contacted. Dozer sustained a snapped lift ram due to contact.
14 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A caterpillar underground R3000 loader was in panel cave 2 extraction drive 224, draw point west 3. The operator noticed some blue grey smoke coming from the engine area. The operator shut down the loader, inspected the engine bay and saw flame coming from the belly plate area. The fire suppression was activated which extinguished the flame.
15 January	Coal mines	Increased water leakage from #2 bulkhead in 1 North Panel 3c/t cut-through off 400 Panel.
16 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A fitter who was working at the E48 crusher underground (plate feeder). There was a problem with the rollers. When disconnecting the electric grease gun from the nipple, the fitter was struck on the forearm by a high-pressure release from the nipple and was sprayed over shoulder and chest by a volume of grease. The fitter was transported to hospital.
21 January	Coal mines	Respirable Quartz exceedance with a total of three exceedances from samples taken on 13 January 2020, afternoon shift in Longwall West 1.
22 January	Coal mines	An electrician received a slight electric shock from a 415v lighting cable. The cable had been disconnected but was still powered. The electrician had an ECG on site that was clear but was sent to hospital (as per site protocol).
23 January	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	A loaded haul truck was tramping underground when the operator noticed smoke and then flames. The operator parked up at a stockpile and activated the fire suppression. With the aid of two others the fire was extinguished with hand-held extinguishers. The fire was in the engine bay and articulation point.
28 January	Coal mines	A split water pipe has caused the LW bleeder roadway to become blocked by water. This has affected the ventilation causing an CH ₄ exceedance of greater than 5%. As a result, a planned withdrawal of the workforce was conducted.
31 January	Coal mines	A light vehicle operator (single occupant) whilst conducting blast sentry clearance has driven off an open edge (inactive shovel face) approximately 14m. The light vehicle landed nose first before coming to rest on its roof. The driver removed themselves from the light vehicle and called the Emergency Response Team who ensured the driver remained stabilised until the ambulance arrived.
31 January	Coal mines	Slip in a 60m highwall within the North pit. approx 2,500 cm ³ . Failure dimensions approx 45m high with maximum extent from highwall toe of 10-15m. A catch windrow is in place under the highwall approximately 10m from the highwall toe. No persons injured.
Total		18

Safety assessments

Safety assessments commenced

FIGURE 2. SAFETY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES COMMENCED BY SECTOR - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



Proactive and reactive safety assessments

Proactive assessments include targeted assessments and planned inspections. Reactive assessments include assessments conducted in response to incident notifications, targeted interventions, high risk activity notifications and action requests. In January 2020, almost three quarters of site assessments were proactive.

FIGURE 3. SAFETY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES BY CATEGORY AND NATURE - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

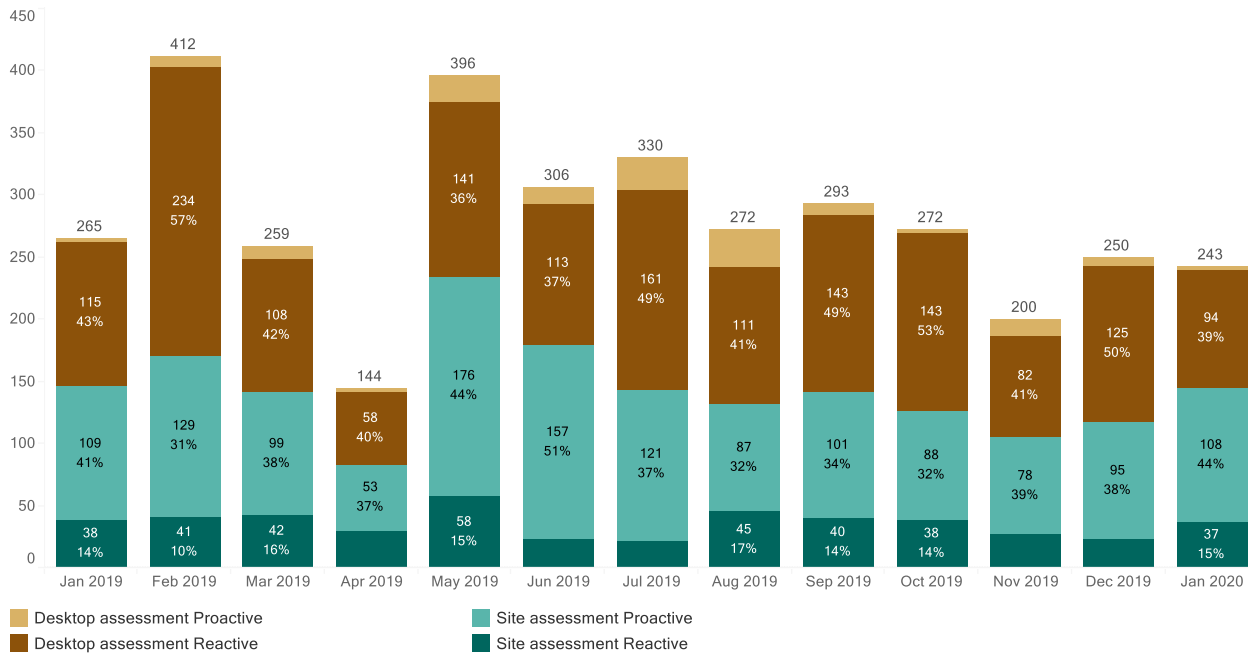
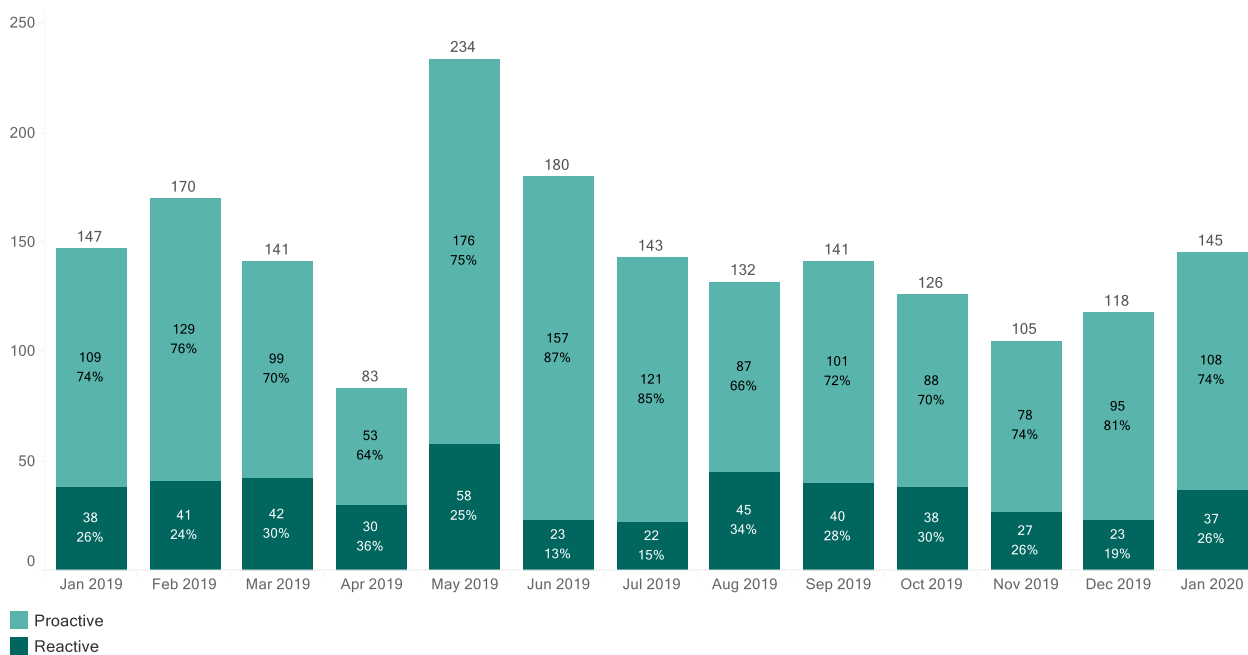


FIGURE 4. SAFETY SITE ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES BY NATURE - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



Targeted assessment program

Under its safety targeted assessment program, the NSW Resources Regulator conducted 10 site-based assessments targeting five different hazards in January 2020.

FIGURE 5. SAFETY SITE TARGETED ASSESSMENTS - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

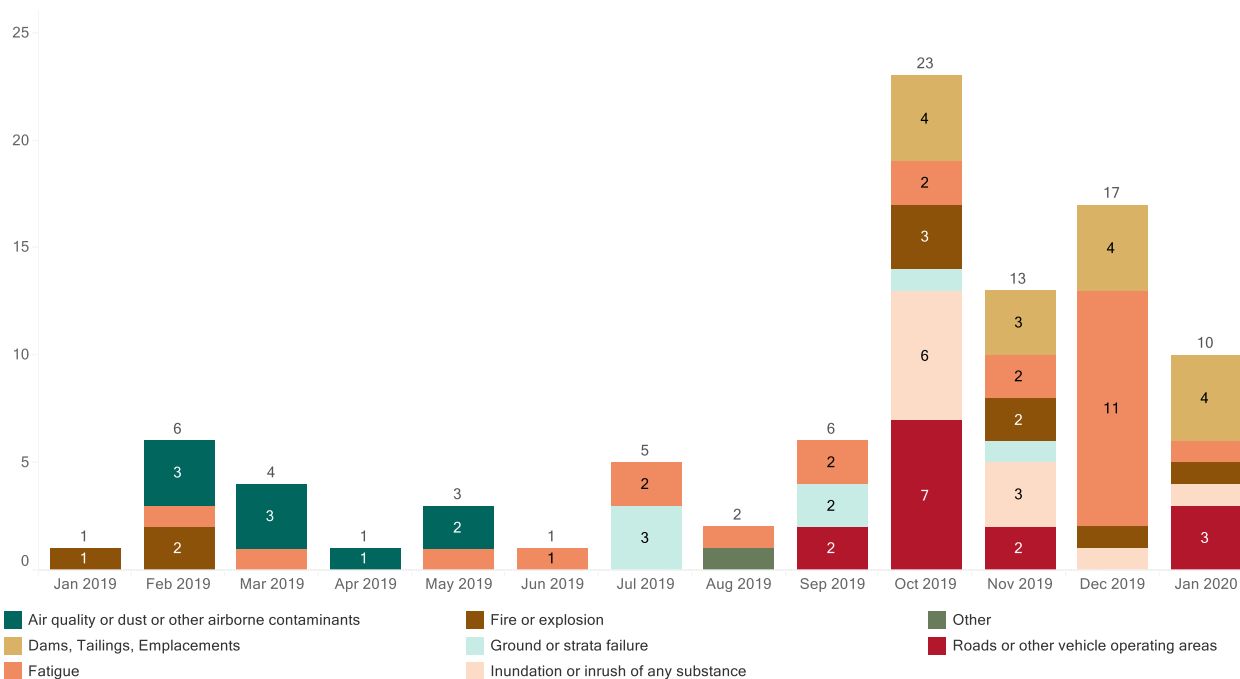


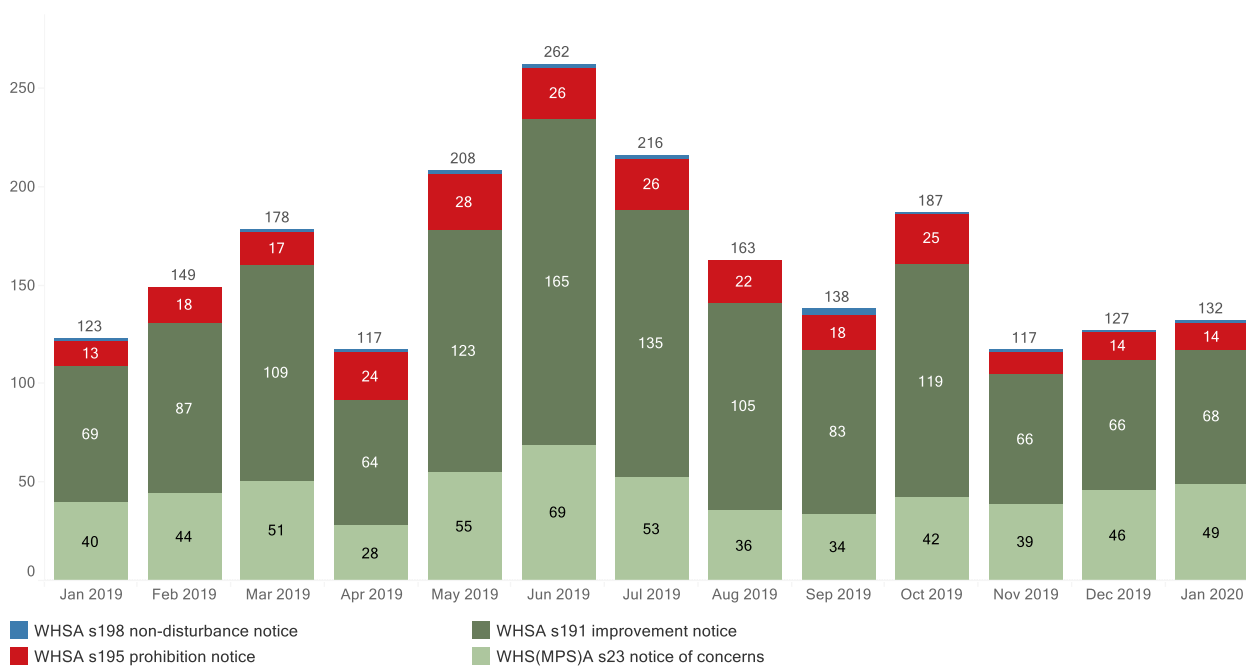
TABLE 2. DETAILS OF SAFETY TARGETED ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS - JANUARY 2020

Hazard	Sector	Mine
Tailings Dams	Coal Mines	Hunter Valley Operations
		Mangoola Coal Mine
		Newstan Colliery
		Rixs Creek Mine
Inundation or inrush of any substance	Coal Mines	Appin Colliery
Fire or explosion	Coal Mines	Mount Thorley Warkworth Operations
Fatigue	Large Mines	Tritton Copper Mine
Roads or other vehicle operation areas	Large Mine	Cleary – Bros – Albion Park
		Cowal Gold Mine
	Small Mines	Crayfish Mineral Sands Mines
Total		10

Safety compliance activities

Safety notices issued

FIGURE 6. SAFETY NOTICES ISSUED BY NOTICE TYPE - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



Prohibition notices issued

In January 2020, 14 prohibition notices were issued under s.195 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.

TABLE 3. PROHIBITION NOTICES ISSUED - JANUARY 2020

Issued to PCBU	Mine Location	Prohibited activity
Cobar Management Pty Ltd	CSA Mine	Access by any person to: either the 8610 Level or 8640 Level in the 414 cross cuts on both levels including access to both the 416 and the L2 ore drives on both levels ('the prohibited areas'), except for the purposes of geotechnical analysis to construct.
Tronox Mining Australia Limited	Snapper Mineral Sands Mine	Any use of the Hitachi 3600 excavator (known as the 338 excavator) except for use directly related to the causal investigation of the incident, and the subsequent repair of the 338 excavator.
Gosford Quarries (NSW) Pty Ltd	Somersby Factories (Gosford Quarries)	This notice relates to the Volvo A40D Articulated dump truck on site and requires the mine operator to: 1. No person to proceed beyond the door of the identified articulated dump trucks (driver's side), unless it is to enter cabin. 2. No person to use the ladder or truck platform on the identified articulated dump trucks (opposite side of cabin) to proceed up for any task.
Gosford Quarries (NSW) Pty Ltd	Somersby Factories (Gosford Quarries)	This notice relates to the Isuzu Water Truck (registration No: XN 68LF) on site and requires the mine operator to: 1. No person to use the ladder system on the truck to undertake any pre-starts and or maintenance activities on the machine.
Hanson Construction Materials Pty Ltd	Monak Sand Pit 4	The Caterpillar 325D Excavator is not to be operated on stockpiles above ground level or on the edge of a bench where there is a risk of a fall or toppling over.
Hanson Construction Materials Pty Ltd	Monak Sand Pit 4	No access past the steps/access platform on the Caterpillar 938F loader.

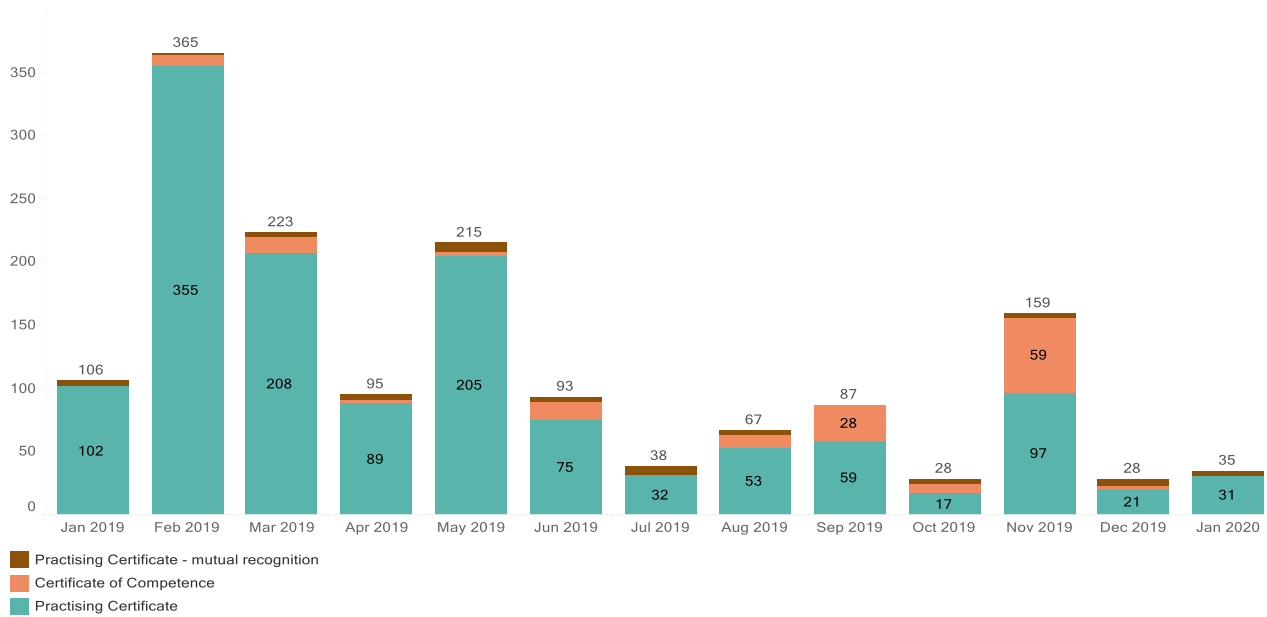
Issued to PCBU	Mine Location	Prohibited activity
Morello Earthmoving Pty Ltd	Morello Monak Sand Pit 3	The Caterpillar 320C Excavator is not to be operated on stockpiles above ground level or on the edge of a bench where there is a risk of a fall or toppling over.
G. M. Richardson Pty Ltd	Richardson Bowen Park Sand Pit No1	The Komatsu WA 470 front End Loader is not to be operated on site for production purposes until the directions in this notice have been addressed.
Thiess Pty Ltd	Mt Arthur South	The recovery of Service Truck RD4292 from Ayre Dale Pit Ramp.
Arumpo Bentonite Pty Limited	Arumpo Bentonite Mine	To stop the use of the CAT 966B loader.
AK Jones & GR Jones T/as Grants Rd Sand	Grants Road Sand Quarry	All persons must not access the mirrors and or windows from the walkway on the side of the A40F dump trucks until handrails are installed to prevent a fall from height.
Capogreco Excavations Pty Ltd	Kelso Sands	The Caterpillar 322C Excavator is not to be operated on stockpiles above ground level or on the edge of a bench where there is a risk of a fall or toppling over. Also, no access to the back of the machine where there is a risk of falling from one level to another (from the service area of the excavator to the ground.
R G Medway	Denrith Pty Ltd - Narragalong Quarry - Walshs Road	This notice relates to the Komatsu HM350 Articulated dump truck on site and requires the mine operator to: 1. No person to proceed beyond the door of the identified articulated dump trucks (driver's side), unless it is to enter cabin. 2. No person to use the ladder or truck platform on the identified articulated dump trucks (opposite side of cabin) to proceed up for 'any task.
Tahmoor Coal Pty Ltd	Tahmoor Colliery	Re-entering the underground workings for any non-essential tasks, refer below
Total		14

*Person Conducting Business or Undertaking

Mining safety competencies activities

Mine safety competence activities include certificate of competence, practising certificate (mutual recognition). In January 2020, 31 practising certificates and four practising certificates for mutual recognition were granted.

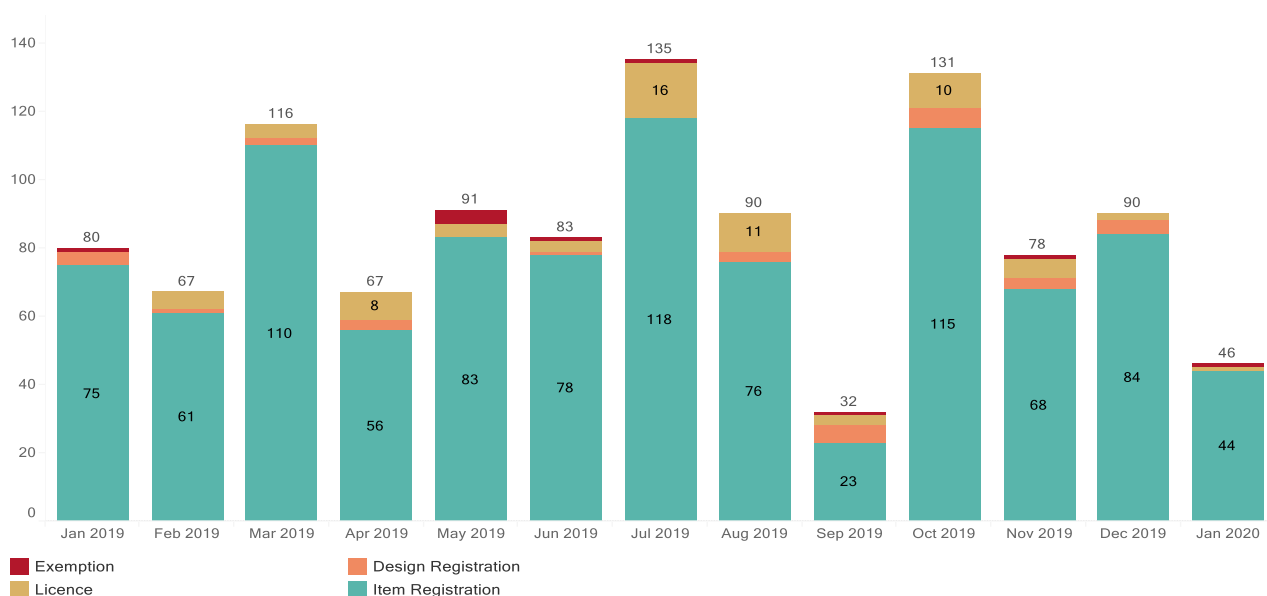
FIGURE 7. COMPETENCE AND PRACTISING CERTIFICATES GRANTED - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



Mining safety authorisation activities

Mining authorisations include licence applications to carry out prescribed high-risk activities, plant item registration and plant design registration. During January 2020, one licence, one exemption and 44 item registrations were granted.

FIGURE 8. MINING AUTHORISATIONS GRANTED - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



High risk notifications

In January 2020, the NSW Resources Regulator received 10 high risk activity notifications under clause 33 of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014.

FIGURE 9. HIGH RISK ACTIVITY BY NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED BY ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

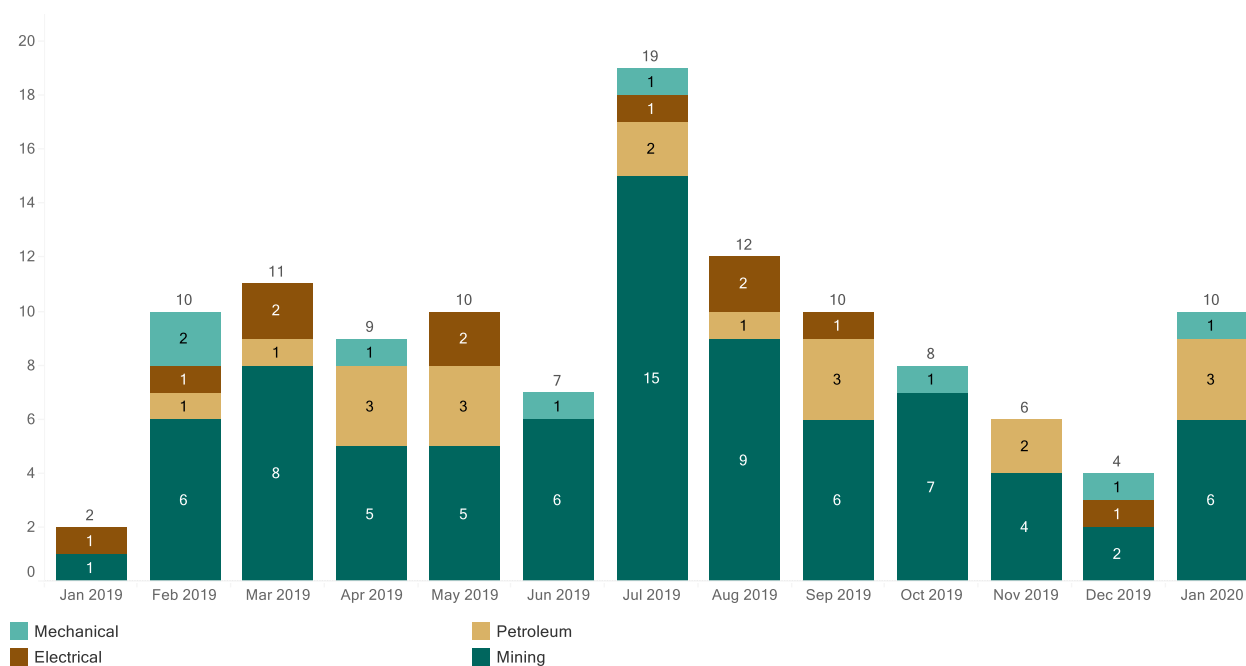


TABLE 4. HIGH RISK ACTIVITY NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED - JANUARY 2020

Mine	Legislation*	Type of notification	No
Tomingley Gold Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 4	Development of a new mine entry (including by sinking a shaft or drift or raise boring)	1
Dendrobium Colliery	Schedule 3 Clause 11	The conduct of hot work in a hazardous zone	1
Mandalong Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 15	The formation of a pillar other than a conforming pillar	1
Mandalong Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 15	The formation of a pillar other than a conforming pillar	1
Moolarben Coal Operations - Underground	Schedule 3 Clause 7(2)(b)	Working in inrush control zone - potential source of inrush cannot be inspected	1
PPL0002 Kay Park 3	Schedule 3 Clause 32	Decommissioning a well	1
PPL0004 Elizabeth Macarthur 8	Schedule 3 Clause 32	Decommissioning a well	1
PPL0004 Glenlee 9	Schedule 3 Clause 32	Decommissioning a well	1
Mandalong Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 7(2)(b)	Working in inrush control zone - potential source of inrush cannot be inspected	1
Austar Coal Mine - Underground Operation	Schedule 3 Clause 10	Sealing (other than emergency sealing), but only if notice has not been given as part of a notice for secondary extraction	1
Total			10

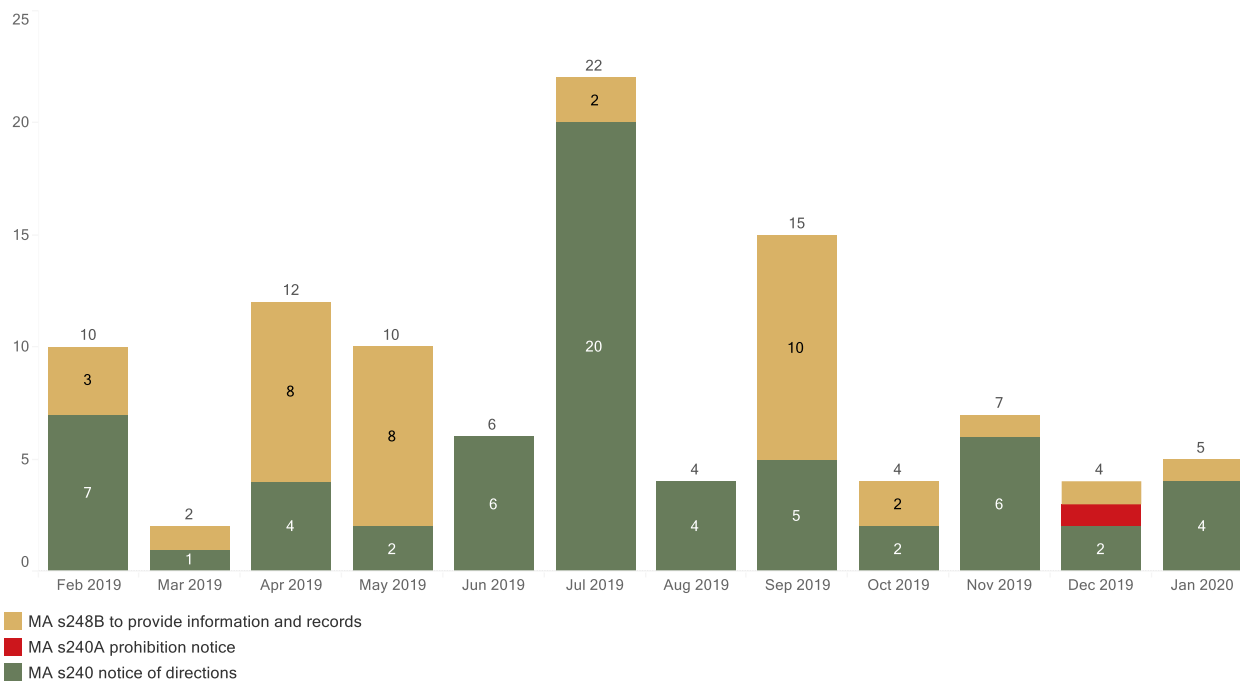
* Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014

Mining Act regulatory activities

Mining Act statutory notices

In January 2020, the NSW Resources Regulator issued five statutory notices under the *Mining Act 1992*.

FIGURE 10. MINING ACT STATUTORY NOTICES ISSUED BY NOTICE TYPE - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



In January 2020, four notice of directions were issued under section 240 of the *Mining Act 1991*.

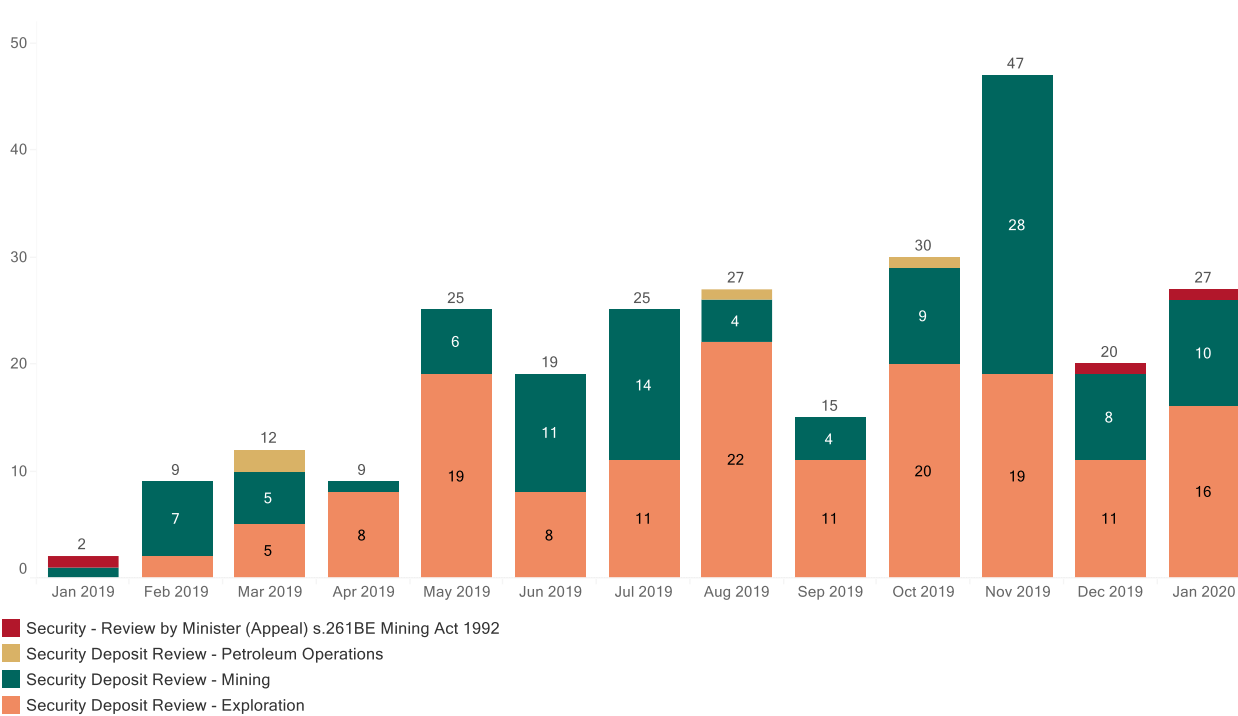
TABLE 5. NOTICES OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED DETAILS - JANUARY 2020

Issued to	Location	Section 240 of the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> Direction
Anotero Pty Limited	Hunter Valley Operations	Appoint a suitably qualified independent expert to complete a site-based closure risk assessment in accordance with AS NZS ISO 31000:2009 specifically addressing the tailings management strategy for Hunter Valley Operations including active and in-active tailings dams as well as dams being actively capped and rehabilitated. Prepare and submit a report providing details of the risk assessment to the Regulator by 1 May 2020.
Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd	Hunter Valley Operations	Appoint a suitably qualified independent expert to complete a site-based closure risk assessment in accordance with AS NZS ISO 31000:2009 specifically addressing the tailings management strategy for Hunter Valley Operations including active and in-active tailings dams as well as dams being actively capped and rehabilitated. Prepare and submit a report providing details of the risk assessment to the Regulator by 1 May 2020.
Cobar Operations Pty Ltd	Endeavor Mine	Appoint a suitably qualified independent expert to complete a site-based risk assessment in accordance with AS ISO 31000:2018 specifically addressing the current operation of the Tailings Storage Facility and decommissioning/closure requirements. Prepare and submit a report providing details of the risk assessment to the regulator by 3 April 2020.
Perilya Broken Hill Limited	ML 5885 (1906)	Rehabilitate three above ground drill collars as per the Department's Exploration Code of Practice: Rehabilitation Requirements.
Total		4

Security deposit reviews

In January 2020, the NSW Resources Regulator completed 26 exploration and mining security deposit reviews under the *Mining Act 1992*. A review of help security deposits is undertaken when an authorisation holder applies to vary approved activities.

FIGURE 11. SECURITY REVIEWS COMPLETED – JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020



Safety legislation and *Mining Act* notified compliance concerns

The NSW Resources Regulator uses a variety of enforcement tools under both the *Mining Act* and *WHS Laws* to ensure compliance. The approach taken depends on the significance and impacts of the breach, the tools available under the legislation and the NSW Resources Regulator’s [compliance and enforcement approach](#).

Safety non-compliance breaches

In January 2020, there were no sustained non-compliance breaches determined under the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) legislation*.

Mining Act non-compliance breaches by regulatory response

In January 2020, the NSW Resources Regulator finalised 25 breaches which resulted in six penalty infringement notices and 19 official cautions for sustained non-compliance breaches under the *Mining Act 1992*. Details are listed below under key enforcement actions.

FIGURE 12. MINING ACT 1992 SUSTAINED NON-COMPLIANCE BREACHES BY REGULATORY RESPONSE - JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

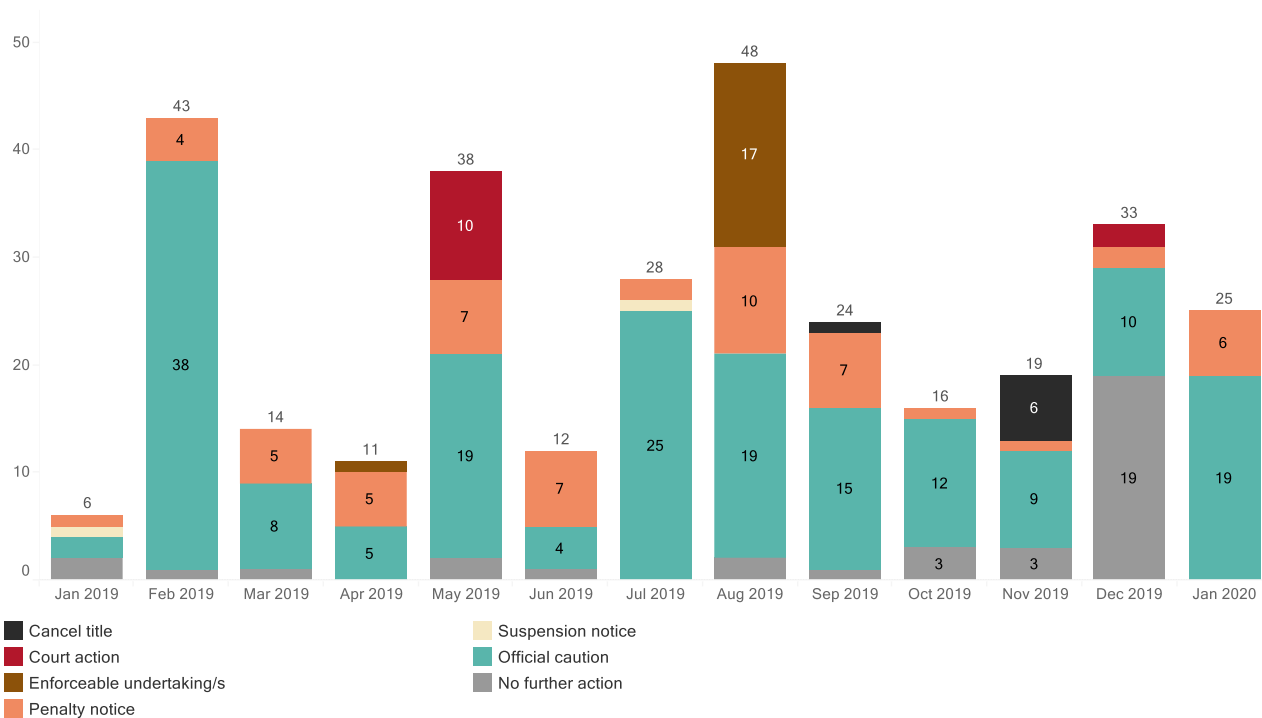


TABLE 6. KEY MINING ACT 1992 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS - JANUARY 2020

Date	Entity	Authority	Action	Amount	Details / Direction
20 January	Individual	ML 5437	Withdrawal of penalty notice*	N/A	Penalty notice issued for failure to submit Annual Exploration Report by due date was withdrawn and replaced with an official caution.
24 January	Nimrod Resources Limited	EL 7089 EL 8187 EL6607 EL 6971	6 Penalty Notices issued	\$27,500	5 penalty notices for failure to lodge Annual Exploration Reports by the due date. 1 penalty notice for false and misleading information.
Total					6

*Previously reported penalty notices in relation to this issue will be incorrect.

Industry engagement activities

The NSW Resources Regulator's industry engagement activities for January 2020 are outlined below.

Committees and other industry body involvement

In January 2020, the NSW Resources Regulator participated in the following committees and working groups.

TABLE 7. COMMITTEES AND OTHER INDUSTRY BODY INVOLVEMENT - JANUARY 2020

Date	Committee / Body	Detail
22 January	Coal Services Gen 4 team	Meeting to settle issues with the maintenance of competence app that is affecting voluntary audit records being submitted by holders of practising certificates.
29 January	CCAA Safety Committee	Presented Small Mines strategy/initiatives for 2020
Total		2

External education and engagement activities

TABLE 8. WORKSHOPS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS - JANUARY 2020

Date	Type of activity	Location	Detail
9 January	Presentation on role of the Resources Regulator in mine safety	Orange	A presentation and discussion on key issues to a group of Newcrest Cadia Mine Health and Safety Representatives undergoing company-provided training for their roles.
30 January	Examiners' annual meeting	NSW Mines Rescue Singleton	Training and information day for examiners for certificates of competence held on an annual basis.
Total			2

Publications and alerts

In January 2020, the NSW Resources Regulator published one information three media releases and four mine safety news on our website.

TABLE 9. MEDIA RELEASES, SAFETY BULLETINS AND PUBLICATIONS - JANUARY 2020

Date	Type	Summary
January	Web update	Flyer on practicing certificates with maintenance of competence
January	Web update	FAQs Practising certificate and maintenance of competence
January	Gazette	Practising certificates equivalence order
January	Report	Fires on mobile plant quarterly reports (January to March 2019, April to June 2019, July to September 2019, October to December 2019)
January	Web page	New airborne contaminants and dust page
January	Web page	New dust diseases page
January	Enforceable Undertaking	Notice of variation to WHS undertaking for Bloomfield Colliery
7 January	Media release	Young Mining prosecution launch
8 January	Media release	Maules Creek coal prosecuted over mining truck collision
9 January	Weekly summary	Week ending 3 January 2020
14 January	Publication	Compliance Priorities January to June 2020
17 January	Weekly summary	Week ending 10 January 2020
18 January	Investigation Information Release	IIR20-01 Worker A – mixed dust pneumoconiosis
21 January	Guide	Preparing a principal hazard management plan
24 January	Technical guidance	Technical reference guides for powered winding systems Parts 1-5
24 January	Weekly summary	Week ending 17 January 2020
30 January	Weekly summary	Week ending 31 January 2020
31 January	Media release	Incident at Ravensworth Operations
Total		18