



**NSW
Resources
Regulator**

MONTHLY BUSINESS ACTIVITIES REPORT

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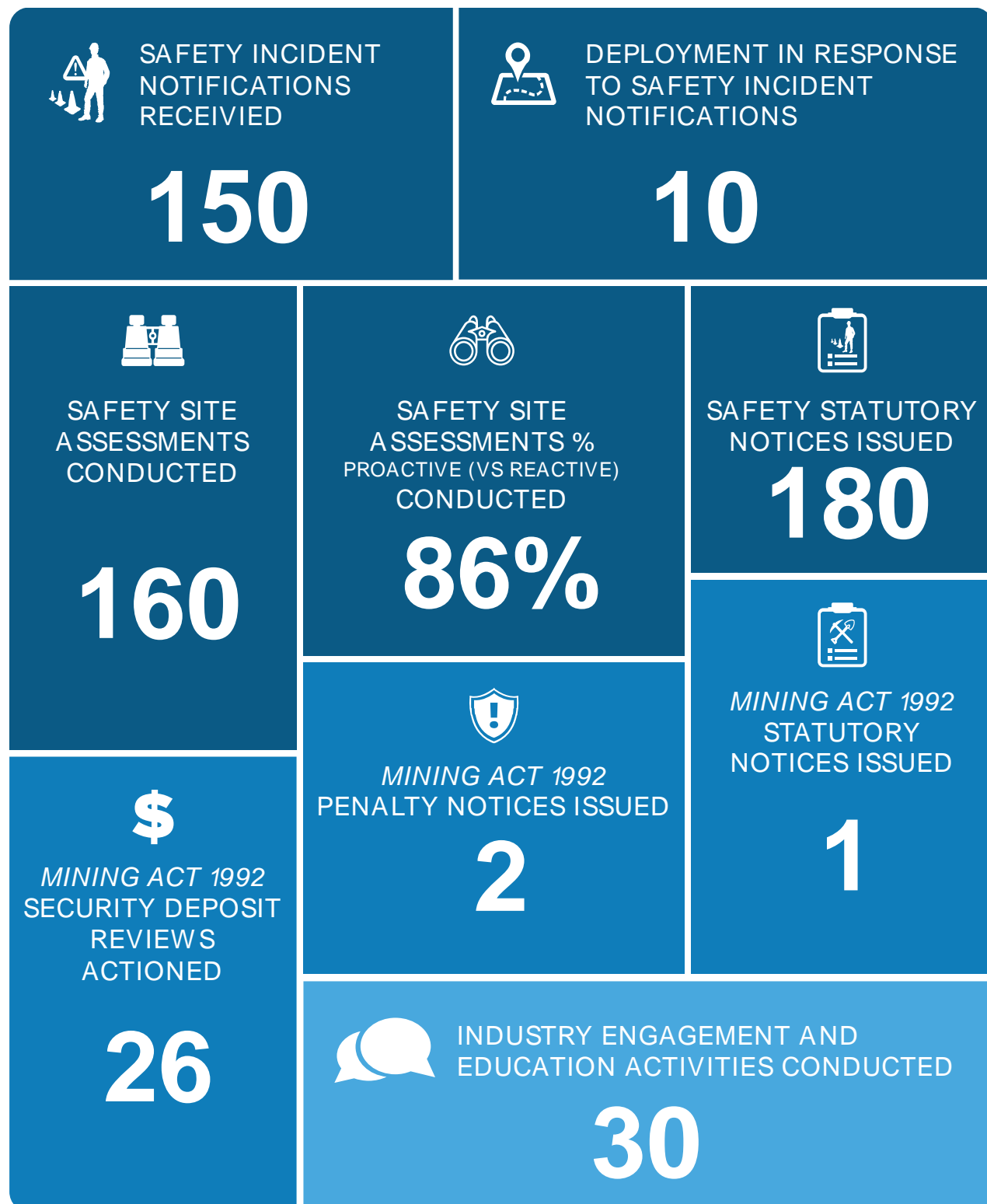
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Activities at a glance

Summary of our regulatory activities in February 2021



Safety incidents of note



A shuttle car driver at an underground coal mine sustained extensive injuries when he was pinned between the rib and the boom of a continuous miner. The driver was assisting the continuous miner operator with bolting. When completed, the shuttle car driver activated the radio mode handle from bolting mode to flit mode. The continuous miner operator has then reversed approximately one metre trapping the shuttle car driver.



An operator at an underground metalliferous mine sustained serious injury when the loader he was operating drove over the edge of a stope and fell 20 metres to the level below. The loader was a tele-remote loader which was being manually operated at the time.

Education and engagement activities

In February, the Resources Regulator published the [Opal Mining Compliance Priorities](#) which sets out our key compliance priorities for opal mining for 2021. The report also outlines our focus on reforms and improvement measures within the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District over the period including guidance material, training and the regulatory policy framework.

NSW also became first mining jurisdiction in Australia to implement an exposure standard of $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ for diesel particulate matter, measured as elemental carbon, which came into force on 1 February 2021 after a 12-month transitional period. To assist industry in managing compliance with the new exposure standard, we published a [Position paper: Implementation of an exposure standard for diesel particulate matter in NSW mines](#) detailing our regulatory approach.

The revised coal dust exposure standard of $1.5\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ also commenced on 1 February 2021.

Work Health and Safety activities

Safety incident notifications

TABLE 1. DETAILS OF SAFETY INCIDENTS WHERE INSPECTORS WERE DEPLOYED - FEBRUARY 2021

DATE NOTIFIED	REPORTING SECTOR	PRINCIPAL MINING HAZARD	INCIDENT
4 Feb	Coal mines	Abnormal movement of excavated / surface strata	A dump truck has dropped about one to two metres when the dump wall failed as the operator was tipping a load.
5 Feb	Coal mines	N/A	A shuttle car driver sustained extensive injuries when he was pinned between the rib and the boom of a continuous miner. The driver was assisting the continuous miner operator with bolting. When completed, the shuttle car driver activated the radio mode handle from bolting mode to flit mode. The continuous miner operator has then reversed approximately one metre trapping the shuttle car driver.
8 Feb	Coal mines	N/A	A worker was found on the floor of the bath house showing signs of stroke.
11 Feb	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	Persons and / or object exposed to edge / drop-off	An operator sustained serious injuries when the loader that was being operated drove over the edge of a stope.
15 Feb	Coal mines	Surface vehicle interaction - Roads and Vehicle other operating areas	The drivers of a light vehicle and a haul truck had to take evasive action to avoid colliding at an intersection. The light vehicle driver stated that he did not see the truck.
16 Feb	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	Loss of control of lifted load or load lifting equipment	An underground worker sustained two fractures to his leg when he was hit by a chute liner that fell to the ground when a lifting lug on the liner failed. The liner weighed about 205 kilograms.
19 Feb	Coal mines	Loss of control of lifted load or load lifting equipment	A worker who was removing a sling from a haul truck was found unconscious on the floor of the workshop.

20 Feb	Coal mines	Fire and Explosion - Surface	While being refueled on the ancillary go line fuel escaped from the tank breather of a watercart and caught fire on the machine muffler.
24 Feb	Coal mines	Surface vehicle interaction - Roads and Vehicle other operating areas	An excavator struck dozer while working.
27 Feb	Large mines – Metalliferous and Quarries	Persons exposed to energised plant	An electrician tasked with removing redundant cable cut a low voltage cable that was in service. The electrician identified a cable that he believed was redundant. The cable was tested and found to have no voltage, so the electrician proceeded to pull the cable out of its conduit. He reached a point where he could not pull any more cable through, so he cut the cable at a location further back towards the switch room. There were four conduits running together, but they crossed over where they ran behind a feeder structure, which resulted in the electrician cutting a conduit that was not the one he was removing.
TOTAL			10

Safety assessments

Safety site targeted assessment program

TABLE 2. DETAILS OF TARGETED SAFETY SITE ASSESSMENTS – FEBRUARY 2021

HAZARD	SECTOR	MINE
Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants	Coal mines - Underground	Mandalong Mine
Ground or strata failure	Coal mines - Surface	Liddell Coal Operations Pty Ltd (Mine Operator - Liddell Coal Operations)
Other	Coal mines – Underground	Narrabri Colliery
	Coal mines - Surface	Rixs Creek Mine
TOTAL		4

Safety compliance activities

Prohibition notices issued

In February 2021, 11 prohibition notices were issued under section 195 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.

TABLE 3. PROHIBITION NOTICES ISSUED - FEBRUARY 2021

ISSUED TO PCBU*	MINE LOCATION	PROHIBITED ACTIVITY
Hanson Construction Materials Pty Ltd	Central Coast Sands Quarry (Hanson)	The application of power to the light and power circuits of the treatment shed - 240V Distribution Board 2-DB1 Limestone CB1 and CB2
Batemans Bay Sand & Gravel Supply Pty. Limited	Bermagui Quarry	The EXTEC E- 7 screen on site in not to be operated for production purposes.
Blue Ridge Quarry	Blue Ridge Quarry	The Terex-Pegson crusher on site in not to be operated for production purposes.
Centennial Myuna Pty Limited	Myuna Colliery	Use of all continuous miners at the mine for production activities.
Thiess Pty Ltd	Mt Arthur South (Thiess Pty Ltd)	The dumping of material on the Mount Arthur South Low wall build (powerline dump).
Winsome O'Brien	MC56859	The hoist must not be used to raise or lower any person.
Ian Maxwell	MC56861	The hoist must not be used to raise or lower any person.
Maules Creek Coal Pty Ltd	Maules Creek Mine	To cease operations at the sediment 3 dam at Maules Creek mine.
Tritton Resources Pty Ltd	Murrumbidgee Copper Mine	Manual tipping into stopes without a stop block in place.
Peter Cooke	MC59366	Use of 'Lister' engine driven generator supplying electricity to various areas of the mine until direction (below) has been carried out.
R R & L A Milliner Pty Ltd	Milliners Pit- Bombala	The Powerscreen on site in not to be operated for production purposes.
TOTAL		11

Safety mining authorisation activities

Exemption applications

In February 2021, we granted one and refused one application requesting exemption from specific provisions of the Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014*.

TABLE 4. EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS GRANTED AND REFUSED - FEBRUARY 2021

MINE	REGULATION PROVISIONS EXEMPTED*	STATUS
Mandalong Mine	Clause 127(1)(a)-(c) Survey plan to be provided to regulator	Granted
Metropolitan Colliery	Clause 177 Registration of plant designs and items of plant	Refused
TOTAL		2

High risk activities notifications

TABLE 5. HIGH RISK ACTIVITY NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED – FEBRUARY 2021

MINE	LEGISLATION*	TYPE OF NOTIFICATION	NO.
Ashton Coal Mine (Underground)	Schedule 3 Clause 16(1)(a)	Secondary extraction by longwall mining, shortwall mining or miniwall mining	1
Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 27	The establishment, operation, alteration or decommissioning of an emplacement area	1
PPL0003 Coonarah 1B	Schedule 3 Clause 33	Suspending a well	1
Ulan Underground Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 16(1)(a)	Secondary extraction by longwall mining, shortwall mining or miniwall mining	1
Moolarben Coal Operations - Underground	Schedule 3 Clause 9	Shotfiring, if shotfiring has not been undertaken within a year prior to the intended time of shotfiring	1
Moolarben Coal Operations - Underground	Schedule 3 Clause 20(3)(a)	The use of a coal mine explosive - if the regulator does not give the mine operator written notice that the explosive has not been used before in the State	1
Integra Underground	Schedule 3 Clause 15	The formation of a pillar other than a conforming pillar	1

MINE	LEGISLATION*	TYPE OF NOTIFICATION	NO.
Mandalong Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 16(1)(a)	Secondary extraction by longwall mining, shortwall mining or miniwall mining	1
PEL0238 Wilga Park 1	Schedule 3 Clause 33	Suspending a well	1
PPL0003 Coonarah 6L	Schedule 3 Clause cl 33	Suspending a well	1
Woodlawn Mine S(C&PL)L 20	Schedule 3 Clause 35	The establishment, operation, alteration or decommissioning of a tailings storage facility	1
Appin Colliery	Schedule 3 Clause 15	The formation of a pillar other than a conforming pillar	1
Mandalong Mine	Schedule 3 Clause 12	Driving an underground roadway with a width greater than 5.5 metres	1
Moolarben Coal Operations - Underground	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
Clarence Colliery	Schedule 3 Clause 7(2)(b)	Working in inrush control zone - potential source of inrush cannot be inspected	1
PPL0005 Menangle Park 10	Schedule 3 Clause 32	Decommissioning a well	1
TOTAL			15

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

Mining Act 1992 regulatory activities

Compliance activities

Statutory notices

In February 2021, one prohibition notice was issued under section 240A(1) of the *Mining Act 1992*.

TABLE 6. PROHIITION NOTICE ISSUED DETAIL - FEBRUARY 2021

ISSUED TO	LOCATION	SECTION 240A OF THE MINING ACT 1992 DIRECTION
Individual	EL8967	Discontinue using any powered machinery (the activity), on the land at EL 8967 or anywhere within the State of New South Wales, without holding a mining authorisation that approves the use of such powered machinery.
TOTAL		1

Key enforcement actions

TABLE 7. MINING ACT 1992 KEY ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS – FEBRUARY 2021

Date	Entity	Authority	Action	Amount	Allegation/Finding
22 Feb	Individual	ML 181 (Act 1973)	Penalty Notice	\$2,500	Failing to comply with direction to rehabilitate land on an expired mining lease by a due date in breach of s.240C
22 Feb	Peel Mining Limited	EL 6695 (Act 1992)	Penalty Notice	\$2,500	Breach of condition of authorisation by failing to provide the Regulator with rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria 14 days prior to undertaking surface disturbance in accordance with condition 6 of the authorisation. A breach of s.378D(1).
TOTAL					2

Industry engagement activities

Our Industry engagement activities for February 2021 are outlined below.

Committees and other industry body involvement

In February 2021, we participated in the following committees and working groups.

TABLE 8. COMMITTEES AND OTHER INDUSTRY BODY INVOLVEMENT – FEBRUARY 2021

DATE	COMMITTEE/BODY	DETAIL
1 Feb	Local Emergency Management Committee	Cobar Local Emergency Management Committee (VidCon)
2 Feb	SafeWork NSW – Major Hazard Facility Forum	Industry Forum – SafeWork NSW Major Hazard Facilities Industry forum (VidCon)
11 Feb	Local Emergency Management Committee	Wollondilly Local Emergency Management Committee
18 Feb	Local Emergency Management Committee	Narrabri Local Emergency Management Committee (VidCon)
23 Feb	Regional Emergency Management Committee C	Far West Regional Emergency Management Committee (TelCon)
24 Feb	SafeWork NSW forum with mining industry	Representing RR at Psychological Health Code of Practice feedback session organised by SafeWork NSW
24 Feb	Local Emergency Management Committee	Parkes Local Emergency Management Committee
24 Feb	Local Emergency Management Committee	Wollongong - Illawarra Local Emergency Management Committee (VidCon)
26 Feb	SafeWork NSW Forum – Dangerous Goods Regulator	Dangerous Goods regulator forum lead by SafeWork NSW
TOTAL		9

External education and engagement activities

TABLE 9. WORKSHOPS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS - FEBRUARY 2021

DATE	TYPE OF ACTIVITY	LOCATION	NUMBER OF ATTENDEES	DETAILS
5 Feb	Briefing session	Online	65	Briefing session for Certificate of Competence Deputy – Underground mines
9 Feb	Industry Forum	Cessnock and online	53 mines 2 suppliers	Mechanical Engineers Underground Coal Quarterly Meeting
23 Feb	Stakeholder forum	WEB	10	Presentation to Crown Lands on managing safety risks
25 Feb	Industry Forum	Dubbo	29	Western Electrical Engineers Forum
TOTAL				4

Publication and alerts

TABLE 10. MEDIA RELEASES, SAFETY BULLETINS AND PUBLICATIONS – FEBRUARY 2021

DATE	TYPE	SUMMARY
1 Feb	Position Paper	Implementation of an exposure standard for diesel particulate matter in NSW mines
1 Feb	News item	Position Paper: implementation of an exposure standard for diesel particulate matter
1 Feb	Investigation Report	Investigation report - Worker D interstitial lung disease
2 Feb	Webpage	Briefing sessions and exam dates
3 Feb	Agenda	MPCB meeting agenda for 16 Feb 2021
3 Feb	Safety Alert	SA21-02 Unattended haul truck rolls 65-metres from a designated parking area
4 Feb	News item	Revised requirements for Quarry Manager - tier 2 quarries practising certificate
5 Feb	Newsletter	Mine Safety News
5 Feb	Newsletter	ISR21-04 Weekly incident Summary
8 Feb	Webpage	Assessed security deposits table

DATE	TYPE	SUMMARY
15 Feb	Report	Examiners report 2020 - Quarry Manager of mines other than underground mines or coal mine
17 Feb	Newsletter	ISR21-05 Weekly incident summary
18 Feb	Report	Opal mining compliance priorities
18 Feb	Video	Recording of Deputy (underground coal mine) briefing session
18 Feb	Fact sheet	Entanglement inspection program
18 Feb	Fact Sheet	Slope stability inspection program
18 Feb	Report	December 2020 monthly business activities report
18 Feb	News item	Opal Mining Compliance Priorities for January – December 2021 released
19 Feb	Fact sheet	Fact Sheet - Inspection for plant item registration
19 Feb	Newsletter	Mine Safety News
19 Feb	Newsletter	ISR21-06 Weekly incident summary
19 Feb	Webpage	Opal mining
22 Feb	Webpage	Safety assessment programs
25 Feb	Fact sheet	Fact sheet - Design and item registration - hoists
26 Feb	Newsletter	ISR21-07 weekly incident summary
26 Feb	Meeting minutes	MSAC meeting minutes
TOTAL		26