

Weekly incident summary

Week ending 18 April 2025

This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the 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	24
Summarised incident total	3


Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
Dangerous incident IncNot0048939 Underground coal mine	<p>A worker suffered an electric shock after making contact with exposed cores of a 240 volt circuit.</p> <p>The circuit was a new supply that was installed to feed a pit-bottom landing control station.</p> <p>The mine was in the process of initial energisation of the switchroom to conduct earth leakage testing of circuit breakers when the incident occurred.</p> <p>The supply to the pit-bottom landing station was not meant to be energised as part of this process.</p>	<p>The electrical engineering control plan for a mine must set out the control measures to manage risks to health and safety from electricity at each mine.</p> <p>Any isolation procedure should consider all potential sources of hazardous energy.</p> <p>Test-for-dead verification tasks should be performed to address each of the potential sources before starting work.</p>

Weekly incident summary week ending 18 April 2025

Incident type	Summary	Comments to industry
<p>Dangerous incident IncNot0048960 Underground coal mine Fire or explosion</p> 	 <p>A dry scrubber load haul dump machine (LHD) was tramping underground in a coal mine when the operator noticed sparks, embers and thick smoke coming from the exhaust. The LHD was shut down. The incident was notified as a failure of explosion-protected characteristics on explosion-protected plant, and the scene was not held.</p> <p>While an investigation is underway, the cause seems to be either the ignition of the glycol coolant that may have leaked into the exhaust, or the combustion of the exhaust particulate filter from excessive exhaust back pressure. The photograph below shows a burnt exhaust filter.</p> <p>The original equipment manufacturer (OEM) had communicated design improvements but these had not been made to this LHD at the time of the incident.</p>	<p>Mine operators are reminded of statutory reporting requirements and the need to preserve incident sites in line with legislation.</p> <p>Explosion-protected diesel engines must be used in accordance with their registration requirements and conditions.</p> <p>There are safety risks associated with using exhaust filters on diesel engines beyond the use/pressures recommended by the OEM.</p> <p>Mine operators should consider using non-flammable (non-glycol) coolants where the risk of glycol ignition is present.</p> <p>OEM upgrades should be completed where the upgrades improve safety.</p>

Weekly incident summary week ending 18 April 2025

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<p>Medical treatment injury IncNot0048969 Underground metals mine</p>	<p>A drill crew, consisting of a driller, offsider, and trainee driller had been conducting routine core drilling operations. Equipment pre-start checks, and a drill site inspection were not completed.</p> <p>While retrieving a core tube using the wireline system, the driller lowered the wireline without confirming the offsider's position. The tube, which was fully loaded with approximately 3.1 meters of core, shifted under load and dropped suddenly. The offsider (IP) had his hand in the line of fire between the tube and the rod string and sustained crush/laceration injuries to three fingers as a result.</p>	<p>Where possible engineering controls should be implemented to reduce reliance on administrative controls, such as PPE and positive communications.</p> <p>The Resource Regulator receives many reported incidents that identify failures in positive communications. Mine operators should ensure where positive communications are implemented as part of a process or control that workers are trained in the correct application of positive communications and actions to take in the event of a communication failure before an incident occurs.</p>

Other Resources Regulator publications

Investigation report: Forklift attachment injures worker

The Resources Regulator in NSW has issued an investigation report into an incident on 2 March, 2024, when a worker was injured after a forklift attachment hit him a mechanical workshop at Cedar Point quarry.

The worker suffered spine and leg fractures in the incident.

Read the [full investigation report \(PDF, 705.73 KB\)](#)

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

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senior staff each week. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our annual performance measures reports.

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