

# Compliance priorities

## July to December 2025

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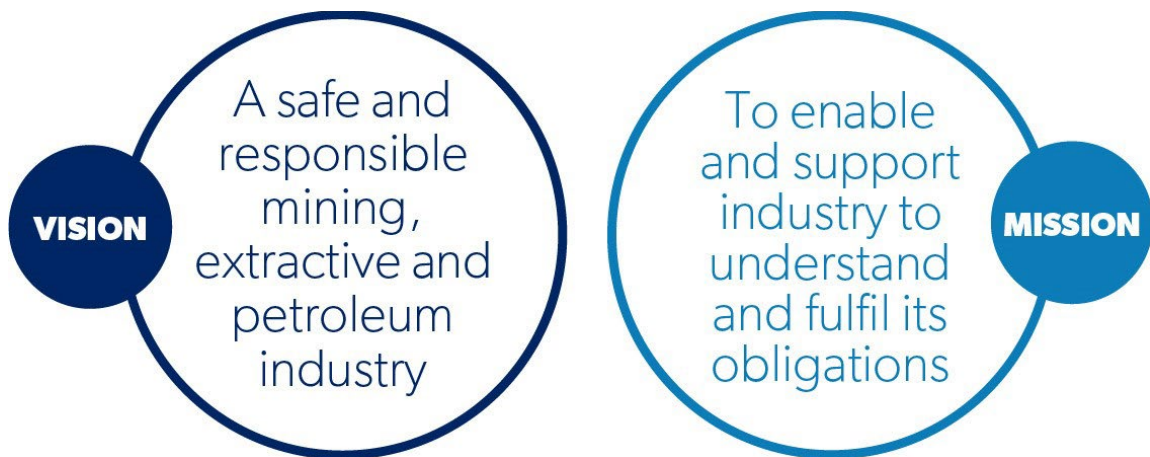
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# Purpose and objectives

This document sets out the Resources Regulator's compliance priorities from July to December 2025.

We aim to:

- ensure a safe, sustainable and innovative mining, extractive and petroleum industry in NSW
- provide information and guidance about safety, environmental and other regulatory obligations to protect and support industry, workers, the community and the state
- promote confidence in how the industry is regulated
- ensure the public can access, understand and engage with the regulatory process engage with and educate both industry and the community about best practice
- support industry to meet its regulatory obligations.



## Mine Safety compliance priorities

### Conveyor fires in underground coal mines

#### Sector: Coal mines

In the 30 months leading up to May 2025, there were 17 reported incidents involving fires on underground coal conveyor belts, with 10 incidents occurring within the past 12 months, highlighting an increasing trend.

Commonly identified contributing factors include:

- failed or damaged components
- belt tracking issues, and
- the build-up of coal fines.

Notably, many of these fires were first detected by workers through the odour of combustion products, rather than by automated systems.

This compliance priority project will involve targeted inspections at 12 underground coal mines. The inspections will assess the effectiveness of controls implemented in response to previous incidents.

Key project outputs will include:

- enforcement action where non-compliance is identified
- individual reports for each mine assessed, and
- a consolidated report summarising industry-wide findings and trends.

**Performance measure(s):** The success of the project will be evaluated by monitoring the frequency of conveyor belt fire incidents over the 12 months following the program's completion.

### Underground emergency exits

#### Sector: Underground metalliferous

In recent assessments across NSW, concerns have been raised regarding the adequacy and accessibility of emergency exits, particularly the second means of egress, at underground metalliferous mines. A compliant second egress is essential for ensuring safe evacuation and effective emergency response in the event of fire, ground failure, or other emergencies.

This targeted inspection program will focus on metalliferous (METEX) underground mines, reviewing the effectiveness of site emergency management control plans (EMCPs) and verifying compliance with:

- duty to prepare, maintain and implement emergency plan ([s 43, WHS Regulation 2017](#))
- emergency exits ([s 99 WHS \(Mines and Petroleum Sites\) Regulation 2022](#))
- [NSW Code of Practice: Emergency Planning for Mines](#)
- [Survey and Drafting Directions for Mining Surveyors 2020](#).



Key of focus will include the:

- presence and condition of primary and secondary egress from active mining areas
- accessibility and trafficability of escape routes during normal and emergency conditions
- accuracy and currency of mine plans, refuge chamber locations, and emergency signage
- capacity and readiness of refuge chambers
- emergency procedures during maintenance or breakdown of escape routes
- evidence of recent testing, worker awareness, and plan reviews.

**Project outputs** will include enforcement action where required, mine-specific reports, and a consolidated summary of sector findings and improvements.

**Performance measure(s):** Success will be determined by follow-up compliance levels and improvements in emergency exit readiness across METEX sites in the 12 months following program completion.

## Tailings dam stage 2

### Sector: All coal and metalliferous

Three tailings failures have occurred internationally in the 12 months to November 2024, highlighting the continued global risk associated with tailings management. Notably, the liquefaction failure of the Çöpler heap leach facility in Turkey on 13 February 2024 released about 10 million cubic metres of material and tragically claimed the lives of 9 workers. This incident underscores that the risk of catastrophic tailings failure remains credible and relevant to operations in New South Wales.

In New South Wales, the integrity of a tailings dam is fundamentally reliant on the effectiveness of critical controls, and whether those controls are maintained to the required standard. A recent compliance program assessing active tailings dams identified multiple opportunities for improvement. As a result, the program is now being extended to include inactive tailings dams and emplacement areas, which may still pose a significant risk in the event of structural failure.

As part of the planned inspection activities, the Regulator will review critical controls associated with dam wall integrity at these suspended facilities. This includes assessing the adequacy of control verification systems and emergency response plans, with a focus on ensuring early indicators of failure can be detected and that effective protections are in place for workers operating on or downstream of these structures.

Inspectors will place particular emphasis on:

- principal hazard management plans (PHMPs)
- dam break studies
- failure mode analyses
- the installation, maintenance, and effectiveness of monitoring systems.

This proactive focus aims to strengthen tailings management practices across the state and reduce the risk of a catastrophic failure in NSW.

**Performance measure(s):** This campaign aims to build awareness, educate duty holders, and promote a clear understanding of obligations relating to inactive tailings storage facilities. Through this, key risk factors will be better understood and effectively controlled. A targeted follow-up assessment campaign will be conducted 12 months after the program concludes to evaluate improvements and ongoing compliance.

## Tier 2 quarries – entanglement

### Sector: Small mines

Between July 2024 and June 2025, a priority program plan was completed, focusing on principal hazard management plans and principal control plans. During this program plan, more than 800 notices were issued. Many of the notices focused on the mechanical engineering control plan (MECP) and issues with guarding on fixed and mobile plants. During this same period, there were 4 dangerous incidents reported to the Regulator that related directly to the MECP.

As part of this year's targeted assessment activity, inspectors will be attending tier 2 quarries and focusing on guarding and the risk of entanglement with rotating equipment on fixed and mobile crushing and screening plants.

**Performance measure(s):** The success of the program plan will be evaluated by monitoring the frequency, severity and causal factors of entanglement injuries over the 12 months following the program's completion.

## Tier 2 quarries – Compliance with PHMP and PCPs

### Sector: Small mines

Between July 2024 and June 2025, a priority program plan was completed focusing on principal hazard management plans (PHMPs) and principal control plans (PCPs). During this program plan, more than 800 notices were issued. Many of these notices focused on the development of PHMPs and PCPs or the alignment with the appropriate schedules within the legislation. Quarries were issued with notices to prepare and implement, as well as update and retrain workers on the PHMPs and PCPs that are required as part of the safety management system.

As part of this year's targeted assessment activity, inspectors will be attending tier 2 quarries focusing on the inspection programs that are in place to ensure the controls from PHMPs and PCPs are in place in the quarries and effective to maintain the health and safety of workers. This program plan will allow inspectors to verify that workers are aware of the controls and have been trained to maintain them.

**Performance measure(s):** Success will be determined by follow-up on compliance levels with regards to implementation of PHMPs and PCP controls developed out of the priority program plan from financial year 2025. Data collected from this financial year 2026 priority program plan will also be used to inform the program plan focus areas for financial year 2027.

## Mining Act compliance priorities

The Mining Act compliance priorities have their foundation in the enduring compliance priorities to achieve the regulatory framework. In addition, the Regulator will focus on key priorities over the upcoming 6 months and focus areas based on business intelligence.

### Enduring priorities

Enduring compliance priorities refer to the long-term, consistent focus areas of the Regulator. These are issues that underpin the regulatory framework and are considered critically important, requiring sustained attention to minimise impacts on the environment and ensure mine rehabilitation benefits future generations. The enduring priorities include a focus on:

- final landform and rehabilitation plan (FLRP)
- rehabilitation objectives (ROBJ)
- rehabilitation completion criteria (RCC)
- annual rehabilitation report (ARR)
- forward program (FWP)
- rehabilitation cost estimate (RCE)
- assessable prospecting operations (APO).

### Key priorities

#### Planned inspection programs (PIP)

PIPs comprise site inspections in response to particular issues that have been identified for further assessment at a mine or exploration site. The need for an inspection as part of a PIP will generally be determined through a particular event or intelligence gathered as part of our regulatory activities, including our enduring priorities.

Key focus areas for the PIPs are:

- progressive rehabilitation
- rehabilitation is occurring ‘as soon as reasonably practicable’
- assessable prospecting operations
- compliance with notices and directions.

#### Targeted assessment programs (TAPs)

TAPs comprise site inspections that assess how effectively a mine or exploration site is controlling risks and managing compliance with the preventative and mitigating controls that are critical in planning for and implementing mine site rehabilitation.

The findings of the TAP are a critical output produced by the Regulator that provides support for industry and the Regulator by:



- identifying specific risks and knowledge gaps that the industry needs to address to meet their statutory compliance obligations
- by showing the performance and practice that facilitates rehabilitation as soon as reasonably practicable and is sustainable in the long term
- helping to improve the knowledge base of the Regulator and industry through identifying relevant guidelines, standards, best practices, as well as emerging technologies/innovations
- identifying the specific roles of the various regulators and associated legislative frameworks, which will lead to opportunities for a more collaborative whole-of-government regulatory approach.
- identifying the need for process, systems or legislative reform to ensure continual improvement of the regulatory framework.

Key focus areas for the TAPs are revegetation, landform establishment and surface and groundwater, and are described below.

## **Revegetation**

Revegetation targeted assessments will focus on the:

- risks associated with revegetation to facilitate sustainable rehabilitation outcomes
- management controls and systems in place to ensure suitable and sustainable revegetation
- constraints and opportunities to provide for rehabilitation that is commensurate with target biodiversity values and/or agricultural capability

## **Landform establishment**

Landform establishment targeted assessments will examine the:

- risks associated with establishing the approved final landform
- management controls and systems in place to mitigate the risks
- potential constraints and opportunities to achieve the approved final landform, including geotechnical/geochemical issues, incorporation of surrounding landforms (for example macro and micro-relief) and visual amenity.

## **Surface and groundwater**

Surface and groundwater targeted assessments will examine the:

- risks associated with establishing the management and ongoing monitoring of surface and groundwater
- management controls and systems in place to mitigate the risks potential constraints and opportunities to limit the generation of contaminants transported in water (groundwater and surface water) from mining related impacts (both mined areas, mining related activities and emplaced waste/reject material).

## Compliance audit programs (CAP)

CAPs comprise a systematic, independent and documented process for obtaining audit evidence and evaluating it objectively to determine the extent to which the audit criteria are fulfilled.

The Mining Act inspectorate will continue to undertake compliance audits of exploration activities to assess whether title holders are meeting their compliance requirements under the *Mining Act 1992*. The compliance audit program aims to:

- assess the level of compliance with the regulatory instruments
- provide internal feedback to improve title conditions, policies or general regulatory framework (protecting and improving system integrity)
- assess the auditee's performance and provide feedback to them on how they may be able to improve their performance
- increase stakeholder confidence in the regulatory system
- increase the level to which titleholders are actively managing their own compliance.

The compliance audit strategy highlights that the audit schedule and focus for each year will be developed using a risk review process. A risk assessment methodology (broadly based on AS ISO 31000:2018 Risk management - Guidelines) is used to develop a broad risk profile for each title (or group of titles) to facilitate the development of the annual audit program. Risk factors used include:

- whether the Regulator has primary regulatory responsibility
- the type, size and complexity of operations and activities
- the location of activities
- results of previous audits and titleholder compliance history
- stakeholder concerns.

Audits completed under the program will identify non-compliance as well as educate lease and licence holders, and in doing so raise awareness of compliance obligations. This should enable lease and licence holders to adopt a more proactive approach to managing their compliance obligations.

Audits for the 2025 calendar year will be undertaken focusing on the following:

- full exploration licence compliance audits
- compliance with the mandatory requirements of the community consultation code of practice
- compliance with risk assessment requirements under the mandatory codes for exploration
- review of rehabilitation sign-off for exploration sites
- full mining lease compliance audits.

## Focus areas

### Rehabilitation completion criteria

#### Sector: Large mines

Rehabilitation completion criteria are the standards used to determine when a mine site is deemed to have been successfully rehabilitated. These criteria are used to demonstrate that the mine site has been restored to a safe and stable environment, meeting the required regulatory obligations before relinquishment.

On 1 July 2023, the Regulator commenced the implementation of reforms under Schedule 8A of the Mining Regulation 2016.

From July 2025, the Regulator will continue to assist the industry in developing rehabilitation completion criteria specific to their mining operations.

This program will include:

- the continuation of one-on-one engagement sessions to workshop acceptable rehabilitation completion criteria for the various aspects of rehabilitation, including landform stability, native vegetation, surface, groundwater and agricultural outcomes
- ongoing engagement with other regulatory agencies about issues such as surface and groundwater quality, to inform the development of rehabilitation completion criteria
- review and update the Regulator's existing rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria
- ongoing assessment and approval of rehabilitation completion criteria.

### Assessable prospecting operations (APO)

The Regulator is responsible for the regulation of exploration activities undertaken pursuant to an exploration title, including issuing exploration activity approvals, ensuring compliance with title conditions and exploration codes of practice and conducting site inspections and investigations.

As part of its commitment to continual improvement, the Regulator is undertaking a review of the APO administrative framework to ensure that the:

- application process, form and systems allow for the collection of all required information
- Regulator's assessment procedures are robust and in line with relevant legislation
- regulatory requirements are appropriate and minimise the administrative burden on industry.

### Rehabilitation cost estimate (RCE) tool

The Regulator is conducting a review of the department's RCE tool, which is used by mine operators to calculate the estimated cost of site rehabilitation and as part of the department's assessment in determining the security deposit paid to the NSW Government.

The RCE tool has been used by industry and the Regulator since the early 2000s, with major revisions in 2017 and 2021. The department's policy is to review the RCE tool at least every 4 years to ensure that security deposits are accurately determined.

Following a tender process in 2024, EHS Support Pty Ltd were selected to undertake the review. EHS Support Pty Ltd has significant expertise and experience in the mining and petroleum industries and has undertaken numerous rehabilitation cost estimates across these sectors. A key project was the development of the new Queensland Government rehabilitation cost estimate tool in 2021.

Key principles adopted to date as part of the evolution of the existing tool have been based on benchmark reviews. To provide greater confidence and transparency in the rates, the 2025 review has primarily involved a bottom-up approach where unit rates have been constructed using engineering cost estimation methods. This will improve auditability as well as make it easier to update rates in future reviews.

To improve how the tool is navigated by both industry and inspectors, the format of the new tool is now more aligned with the Queensland tool with some additional enhancements.

Following a consultation period between 12 May and 4 July 2025, the feedback will be reviewed with EHS Support Pty Ltd before finalising.

The department is planning a staged rollout from 1 October 2025 to enable titleholders to be well prepared for the transition to the new tool ahead of its mandatory use from 1 December 2025.

It should be noted that the department's rehabilitation security deposits policy still applies to the new tool. The security deposit must cover the government's full costs in undertaking rehabilitation in the event of default by the titleholder.

The department will still accept alternative rates if they reflect independent third-party contract rates to undertake rehabilitation activities. Justification for any rate change will need to be supplied with any RCE submission.

## **Suspension of mining operations compliance**

Mining lease holders are required to carry out the timely and responsible development of the resource and ensure that rehabilitation, environmental monitoring and maintenance activities are managed under the conditions of the lease.

Schedule 1B clause 7A(1) of the *Mining Act 1992* states that, 'A mining lease is subject to a condition that the holder of the lease may suspend mining operations in the mining area only if the operations are suspended in accordance with the written consent of the decision maker.' Failure to comply with the obligations set out in the clause is a contravention of the condition of authorisation (section 378D)

The suspension of operation obligations is set out in the NSW Resources Suspension of mining operations policy dated May 2022.

This compliance project will:

- confirm the status of mines with current mining authorisations that may not be operational and have no current approval to suspend mining operations
- engage with the identified mines to achieve compliance .

## Progress of mine rehabilitation obligations

From July to December 2025, the Regulator will undertake an inspection program on identified mines following a risk profiling review to review and verify the progress of mine rehabilitation. Clause 13(1) of the Mining Regulation 2016 requires the holder of a mining lease to prepare a forward program for the mining lease that includes:

- a schedule of mining activities for the mining area for the next 3 years
- a summary of the spatial progression of rehabilitation through its various phases for the next 3 years
- a requirement that the rehabilitation of land and water disturbed by mining activities under the mining lease must occur as soon as reasonably practicable after the disturbance occurs.

The planning inspection program will review forward programs to determine:

- if the program includes a schedule of mining activities and the spatial progression of rehabilitation through its various phases for the next 3 years
- whether the mine lease holder has indicated in the mines annual reports that there has been delay in progressive rehabilitation
- if there are any reasons to believe that the future rehabilitation commitments set out in the forward program will not result in rehabilitation occurring as soon as reasonably practicable
- review what progressive rehabilitation has taken place when compared with the commitments in the forward program
- review progress with rehabilitation research and trials that a listed in the forward program
- identify if rehabilitation maintenance and corrective action listed in annual reports and forward programs remain on track
- determine whether any further action is required to ensure progressive rehabilitation is occurring.

## Proactive assessment programs

### Mine safety assessment programs

Our planned assessment programs are a structured approach to assessing how effectively a mine or petroleum site is controlling risks associated with principal hazards. Planned assessment programs are coordinated based on industry and sector risk profiles.

These assessment programs will include both targeted assessments and planned inspections. Targeted assessments may not necessarily be undertaken at every mine. They may be announced or unannounced and may occur on back shifts and weekends.

From July 2025 to December 2025, assessment programs will include the following:



## **Coal**

- Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants – surface and underground – exposure to dust.
- Fire or explosion – underground – uncontrolled gas or dust explosion.
- Fire and explosion – surface and underground – fixed plant and structures.
- Mechanical engineering control plan structural collapse.
- Mechanical engineering control plan – rotating or moving equipment.
- Ground or strata failure surface – uncontrolled movement of ground.
- Ground or strata failure underground – uncontrolled movement of ground.
- Roads or other vehicles operating areas – surface and underground – collision of vehicles.

## **Metalliferous and petroleum**

- Fire or explosion – surface and underground – uncontrolled fire or explosion on mobile plant
- Ground or strata failure – surface – uncontrolled movement of ground.
- Inundation or inrush of a substance – underground.
- Mechanical engineering control plan – surface and underground – uncontrolled release of energy, including spring energy or fluid under pressure.
- Mechanical engineering control plan - tier 2 quarries – unintended interaction with rotating or moving equipment .
- Ventilation control plan – underground – exposure to irrespirable atmospheres.

## **Small mines**

- Safety management systems tier 2 quarries.
- Safety management systems tier 3 quarries.
- Mechanical engineering control plan tier 2 quarries – Unintended interaction with rotating or moving equipment.

## **Engineering**

- Coal mines – explosive control plans – manufacturing and storage of explosives.
- Well integrity control plans.
- HRA verifications.
- Licensed facility assessments.
- Subsidence – sites where the public are at risk, sites where mine design is the primary control.
- Tailings storage facilities.

## **Emergency management**

- Emergency management – Coal explosives.
- Emergency management – METEX explosives.

- Hazardous chemical – manifest assessments.

## Opal mining sector

Opal prospecting takes place under the conditions of an opal prospecting licence (OPL) or mineral claim (MC). Opal mining takes place under the conditions of a mineral claim.

During the next 6 months, the Regulator will improve the guidance materials available to miners, including reporting how rehabilitation has been delivered on their mineral claim or opal prospecting licence.

The Regulator will also follow-up on the recent compliance education campaign to ensure safe and sustainable mining practices. .

Over the forward period, inspections may be announced and will focus on, but not be limited to:

Work health and safety	Mining Act compliance
<p><b>Person-riding hoists</b></p> <p>Person-riding hoists (winding systems) are an important item of plant in small gemstone mines. They are considered high-risk plant, and if they fail, they have the potential for a fatality. The safe design, manufacture, maintenance and operation of the person riding hoist plays a critical role in eliminating hazards and risks when a person riding hoist is introduced to a mine.</p> <p>Inspectors will be inspecting person-riding hoists to check that they have been designed, manufactured, installed and maintained safely.</p>	<p><b>Topsoil and mullock management</b></p> <p>Topsoil is a valuable resource in the rehabilitation process. It is important to remove the topsoil before commencing mining operations and stockpile it to the side for later respread across the completed operation. The use of topsoil allows vegetation to re-establish quickly and so reduces the potential for erosion. Mullock must be stockpiled separately from topsoil. Mullock must not be spread across the final landform as this has the potential to inhibit vegetation from re-establishing and so may delay the return of the security held by the department.</p> <p>A program of planned inspections will be undertaken to assess how effectively title holders are managing mullock stockpiles and soils on their opal mine sites to ensure compliance with the conditions of the mineral claim or opal prospecting licence.</p>
<p><b>Working in and around shafts</b></p> <p>Falls from height are a major cause of serious injuries and fatalities in workplaces across Australia. In October 2020, a miner at Lightning Ridge was fatally injured after a suspected fall from height within a shaft.</p> <p>A subsequent review of incident data from Lightning Ridge has identified several incidents during the past 3 years due to falls from height.</p>	<p><b>Rehabilitation of expired and cancelled mineral claims</b></p> <p>Rehabilitation is a critical element of NSW mining operations and is principally regulated under the conditions of the relevant mineral claim or opal prospecting licence granted under the <i>Mining Act 1992</i>. Rehabilitation ensures that areas disturbed by prospecting and mining operations are returned to a condition capable of achieving a subsequent land use.</p>

Work health and safety	Mining Act compliance
<p>Inspections will focus on access controls around open shafts, such as fencing or appropriate shaft covers.</p>	<p>Claim holders are required to undertake rehabilitation in accordance with the conditions of the mineral claim or opal prospecting licence and provide evidence that rehabilitation has occurred.</p> <p>A program of planned inspections will be undertaken to assess how effectively title holders are complying with their conditions of title for rehabilitating mineral claims.</p>
<p><b>Puddling tank operations</b></p> <p>Wet puddling operations at Lightning Ridge typically comprise one or more agitators removed from a cement truck, often with a heavily modified drive, that can serve multiple mining operations under the supervision of the nominated operator. The compliance priority work will consider the performance of nominated operators across these sites, particularly where the sites are used by multiple miners.</p> <p>Inspections will include those associated with falls from height, entanglement, pedestrian-vehicle interactions and guarding on plant and equipment.</p>	<p><b>Open-cut and restricted operations (trenching)</b></p> <p>Open-cut mining is often seen as the final procedure in the recovery of opal or gemstone from a given location, after underground mining has been completed. It also allows the rehabilitation of the area to an acceptable standard for the landholder's continued use.</p> <p>Open-cut mining requires a permit to be issued under the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> (section 175). Activities cannot commence until approval has been granted.</p> <p>Inspections will focus on ensuring open cut and restricted operations are undertaken with the appropriate authorisation and are carried out in accordance with the conditions of their title.</p>

## Strategic projects

### Implementation of the Adverse Vehicle Interaction Technical Reference Guide (TRG)

An advisory committee was established in quarter one 2024, comprising key industry stakeholders, to assist in the development of a technical reference guide (TRG) to support the industry in establishing an effective framework to develop, implement, and monitor controls for safe vehicle interaction management.

The TRG has undergone 2 rounds of public consultation and is scheduled for publication in July 2025.

The next phase of the project will focus on a comprehensive implementation program to drive adoption and effective use of the TRG across industry. Key activities will include:

- **high-quality production video** featuring advisory committee members to promote key messages and practical guidance
- **education sessions** for Regulator staff to support consistent understanding and enforcement
- **online engagement sessions** targeting industry leaders to encourage leadership-driven implementation
- **presentations at key industry forums** to build awareness and drive adoption
- **broad publication** through Mine Safety News, the Regulator's website, and social media channels
- **alignment of proactive field assessments and deployment templates** to ensure regulatory activities support TRG objectives
- **ancillary reporting requirements** to capture and monitor industry uptake and implementation outcomes.

The implementation program aims to ensure that the TRG not only informs but actively shapes safer practices for vehicle interaction management across NSW mining operations.

**Performance measure(s):** The success of the implementation program will be measured by evaluating the extent to which key concepts and practices from the TRG have been adopted and embedded within industry operations.

### Supervisor development video project

It is recognised that a significant proportion of incidents in the mining industry involve supervisory contributing factors, such as hazards not being identified, safe work procedures not being implemented, or equipment being used when it is not fit-for-purpose.

In the past, this issue was addressed through a series of supervisor-focused webinars. These were well received, however, their reach was limited by the challenges of accommodating various shifts and rosters across the industry.

To overcome this limitation and broaden access, this project will deliver a professionally produced video to be published on our website. The video will be available for mines to incorporate into their supervisor development programs or for individual supervisors to access at their convenience.

**Performance measure(s):** The success of the project will be measured through:

- the number of views (hits) recorded on the website, and
- anecdotal feedback from industry participants and stakeholders.

## **Delivery of the Audit Office of NSW performance audit recommendations**

The Audit Office of NSW conducts financial and performance audits of state government entities, local councils and universities. These audits aim to help Parliament hold the government accountable for its use of public resources.

The department was selected for the 2024/2025 audit plan to assess the effectiveness of the department in monitoring compliance with and enforcing mining rehabilitation requirements under the *Mining Act 1992* and associated Regulations.

It examined whether the department has established a framework that enabled it to effectively regulate mining rehabilitation. It also examined whether the department effectively monitored rehabilitation progress and ensured compliance with rehabilitation requirements in New South Wales mines.

The report was tabled in NSW Parliament in June 2025 with 4 recommendations made concerning:

1. measuring the outcomes of the regulatory program for mine rehabilitation.
2. addressing the gaps in the data framework.
3. publicly reporting on key performance indicators and targets.
4. enhancing governance and regulation for mine rehabilitation.

The department will deliver these recommendations by June 2026.

A copy of the report will be published by the Audit Office of NSW on its website [www.audit.nsw.gov.au](http://www.audit.nsw.gov.au).