

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 25 September 2020

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	49
Summarised incident total	2

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0038297 Metals exploration	An exploration drill rig contacted with energized 22kV overhead power lines while travelling across a paddock on an exploration site. One of the three power lines broke and dropped to the ground. The operator dismantled the drill rig without suffering any injuries or electric shock.	Work activities in remote areas can pose additional hazards and constraints on available risk control measures. However, this does not justify failure to control the risks. Refer to the Safety Alert published for this incident: SA20-08 Drill rig contacts 22kV power line Refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB15-05 Plant contacting overhead powerlines and structures • NSW Code of Practice for Work near overhead power lines.



Dangerous incident
IncNot0038309
Underground coal mine



A 14-tonne excavator contacted 415v overhead power lines whilst tramming over uneven ground. When the excavator bucket contacted the ground, the operator lifted the boom and continued tramming. The excavator body rocked, and the boom contacted the power lines, pulling two conductors to the ground. The excavator operator was uninjured.



If work on a mine site involves daily movement of machinery with the ability to reach powerlines, consideration should be given to the relocation of the lines or determining alternate routes to eliminate the risk of electric shock.

Refer to:

- [SA20-08 Drill rig contacts 22kV power line](#)
- [SB15-05 Plant contacting overhead powerlines and structures](#)
- NSW Code of Practice for [Work near overhead power lines](#).

NSW Resources Regulator publications

- [Safety alert SA20-09 Operating mobile plant – Incidents and near misses](#)

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
	International (fatal)
MSHA	<p>Mine fatality</p> <p>On 1 September 2020, a mine worker died when he fell while attempting to close a hatch on the top of a bulk material trailer. The miner was wearing a fall protection harness, but his lanyard was not attached to a secure anchor point.</p> <p>Details</p>

National (other, non-fatal)

DMIRS (WA)

Safe storage and transport of ammonium nitrate (AN) – Short guide

Western Australia’s Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety has recently released a pamphlet relating to the safe storage and transporting of Ammonium Nitrate.

[Details](#)

Transport for NSW (Gov)

Concrete pumping – Safety alert

Several recent concrete pumping incidents have highlighted the risks involved with the use of concrete pumps (line or boom) used to deliver pre-mixed concrete. Most incidents involved injuries or near misses from concrete line blockages, which created the build-up of pressure within the system, resulting in equipment failure or the uncontrolled movement of delivery hoses and pipes.

[Details](#)

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.

© State of New South Wales through Regional NSW 2020. You may copy, distribute, display, download and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute Regional NSW as the owner. However, you must obtain permission if you wish to charge others for access to the publication (other than at cost); include the publication in advertising or a product for sale; modify the publication; or republish the publication on a website. You may freely link to the publication on a departmental website.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (October 2020) and may not be accurate, current or complete. The State of New South Wales (including Regional NSW), the author and the publisher take no responsibility, and will accept no liability, for the accuracy, currency, reliability or correctness of any information included in the document (including material provided by third parties). Readers should make their own inquiries and rely on their own advice when making decisions related to material contained in this publication.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

CM9 reference DOC20/799663

Mine safety reference ISR20-39

Date published 2 October 2020

Approved by Chief Inspector
Office of the Chief Inspector