

May 2022 Incident periodical

Recent High Potential Incidents
Learnings and Recommendations
Safety Alerts and Communications

Queensland Coal Mines Inspectorate

Coal Inspectorate



Resources Safety & Health
Queensland

1. Incident – Parking violations - Surface Mine

- Two LV drivers stopped and held a conversation in the centre of an active haul road, near a hairpin turn.
- A RDT approached along the haul road, one LV moved away and one stayed in place, attempting radio contact with the RDT operator.
- Attempts at radio contact failed and the RDT moved past the stopped LV at about 15kph, leaving a 5 metre separation distance.



Recommendations

- Regular auditing of the traffic management plan to ensure that the mine operators are working to the plan.
- Ensure personnel in the management structure are “sensitive to operations”, and visible in and around the mine
- Haul road delineators are effective

Site Senior Executive



- Supervisors should demonstrate exemplar behaviour with respect to compliance with the SHMS.
- Where positive comms can not be achieved vehicles should either stop in a place of safety or move to a place of safety.
- Demonstrate a “preoccupation with failure” by asking the what if?

Supervisors/OCE



- Comply with the mine rules for overtaking, passing and parking.
- Follow the procedure for overtaking or passing.
- Make positive communication with that vehicle’s driver, prior to passing.
- Where positive comms are not achieved stop or move to a place of safety.

Coal Mine Workers



2. Incident – Inhalation of accelerant – Underground Mine

- A CMW while spraying shotcrete noticed the accelerant hose attachment to the nozzle was loose.
- Before the system could be shutdown the connection failed and accelerant fluid sprayed into the CMW's face and eyes.
- The CMW was wearing safety glasses only.



Recommendations

Ensure the mine's SHMS —

- a) Provides effective controls when coal mine workers are managing pressurised fluids.
- b) Provides the PPE that is the most effective last line of defence.
- c) Requires supervisors to ensure the critical controls are in use and effective.

Site Senior
Executive/UMM



- Know the critical controls that manage the risks to coal mine workers on jobs you are supervising.
- Regularly check that the controls are being used and are effective.
- Ensure all hazard control aspects of the chemical data sheet are communicated and used.

ERZ Controllers



- Do pre start and in use inspections of equipment and fix any defects.
- Understand the hazard control requirements of the chemical data sheet for the products being used
- Do not use equipment if you have any concerns about its condition.
- Use the most effective PPE available at all times. Use goggles and safety glasses, where required, when managing pressurised fluid.

Coal Mine Workers



3. Incident – Collision - Surface Mine

- A dozer was cleaning around a rope shovel during digging operations.
- The rope shovel swung to load a truck and the counterweight collided with the dozer blade.
- The dozer operator did not report the incident.



Recommendations

- High Reliability Organisations (HRO) encourage their employees reporting of incidents.
- Provide a psychologically safe workplace for reporting of bad news.
- Encourage operators to stop work and report incidents and near misses when they happen. The learnings will make the site and industry a safer place

Site Senior Executive



- Every shift, audit the coal mine workers compliance with the mine procedures for floor clean up at excavated faces
- Take the corrective action necessary to eliminate any deviations you detect from those procedures.
- Delineate “No Go” zones for equipment and personnel
- Encourage operators to stop work and report incidents and near misses when they happen. The learnings will make the site and industry a safer place

Supervisors/OCE



- Follow the mine procedures managing avoidance of collisions during floor clean up at excavator faces.
- Stop work and report incidents and near misses when they happen. The learnings will make the site and industry a safer place

Coal mine workers



4. Incident – Collision - Surface Mine

- A circuit running scrapers only was operating at the mine.
- A grader maintaining the circuit was working in the direction against the traffic flow.
- A loaded scraper travelling at 20kph collided with the grader.
- The impact point was immediately behind the grader cab.



Recommendations

- Audit the effectiveness of supervisors task hazard identification and communication to CMW.
- Confirm the risk controls being applied will be effective to prevent serious harm.

Site Senior Executive



- When allocating tasks to coal mine workers, know the hazards that have to be managed by the CMW to avoid serious harm and make sure the CMW have effective risk controls to prevent serious harm.

OCE/Supervisors



- Follow mine procedures when accessing haul circuits.

Coal Mine Workers



5. Incident – LHD rollover – Underground Mine

- A LHD running waste rock to the surface used a duckbill to carry the material.
- While articulating on the surface before dumping, the LHD toppled onto its side.
- The centre of gravity of the equipment combination plus load changed during articulation.



Recommendations

- Review procedures and ensure equipment provided to coal mine workers meets the task requirements
- Make sure tasks hazards are identified and risk assessed and effective risk controls are implemented to protect CMW from serious harm.

Site Senior Executive



- Make sure work instructions are:
 - available to coal mine workers
 - implemented by all supervisors
 - followed by coal mine workers
- Deploy fit for purpose equipment when allocating resources

ERZC/Supervisors



- Don't use equipment for tasks it has not been designed to do

Coal mine workers



Coal Mines Inspectorate Recent Communications

[Message from the BOE on the Practising Certificate Scheme](#)

[Letter from the CICM to OCEs on the Certificate of proficiency in Mine Gases and Gas Testing](#)

[Letter from the CICM on Ventilation Officer Certificate of Competency Requirements](#)

[Letter from the CICM – Implementation of BoI Recommendations](#)

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Safety Alerts

415

Bolt projectile from final drive

414

Hauling equipment failure during conveyor belt change out

413

Underground grader unplanned movement

412

Spinal injury resulting from mobile plant contact

411

Truck rolls down dump face after breaching tip head bund