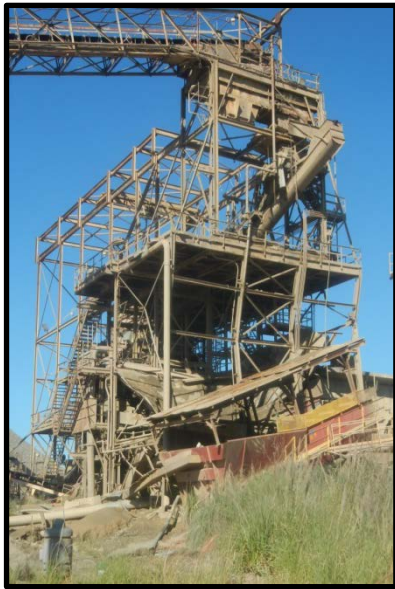


## METAL / NONMETAL Close Call Accident Alert

Surface Sand and Gravel – The scrubber tower located at the mine structurally failed moments after a miner traveled through the area. Four main support columns failed, causing the scrubber tower to be unstable.



### Best Practices

- Periodically conduct structural inspections.
- Routinely examine metal structures for indications of weakened structural soundness, including corrosion, fatigue cracks, bent/buckling beams, braces or columns, loose/missing connectors, broken welds, etc.
- Ensure supports are rated for the loads to which they may be subjected.
- Report all areas where indicators of structural weakness are found.
- Maintain good housekeeping around the base of structures, columns and flanges, as well as awnings and horizontal surfaces.



[www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov)  
askmsa@dol.gov  
Twitter: @MSHA\_DOL

Report Accidents &  
Hazardous Conditions  
1-800-746-1553