

# Fatality involving chain feeder at a wash plant

**Mines safety alert no. 331 | 08 September 2016 | Version 1**

The following information is provided with the objective of communicating key aspects of a tragic incident. The intent of this safety alert is to support continued efforts to keep our industry safe.

## What happened?

Shutdown maintenance work was being undertaken on a chain feeder installed below a run-of-mine (ROM) raw coal dump hopper. The chains and flight bars had been removed and a team of contract coal mine workers were in the process of removing a section of the bottom deck. A section of the bottom deck had been slung in preparation for its removal when the steel-plated deck fell in an uncontrolled manner striking a coal mine worker.

Despite the efforts of fellow coal mine workers and the site emergency response team the injured coal mine worker could not be saved.

## How did it happen?

To be confirmed from investigation

## Comments

The investigation is only at a preliminary stage. A nature and cause report, including findings and recommendations, will be provided to the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines and to the Coroner.

## Recommendations

Based on preliminary investigations, it is recommended that all sites review the application and effectiveness of:

- Work planning processes and related risk assessments
- Lifting management processes
- Contract management

**Authorised by Russell Albury - Chief Inspector of Coal Mines Contact:** Neil Reynoldson, Manager, Safety and Health, Central Region, +61 7 4999 8510 [neil.reynoldson@dnrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:neil.reynoldson@dnrm.qld.gov.au)  
Issued by the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines

Placement: Place this announcement on noticeboards and ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy.