

Week ending 31 May 2017

This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the Resources Regulator: phone 1300 814 609 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At a glance

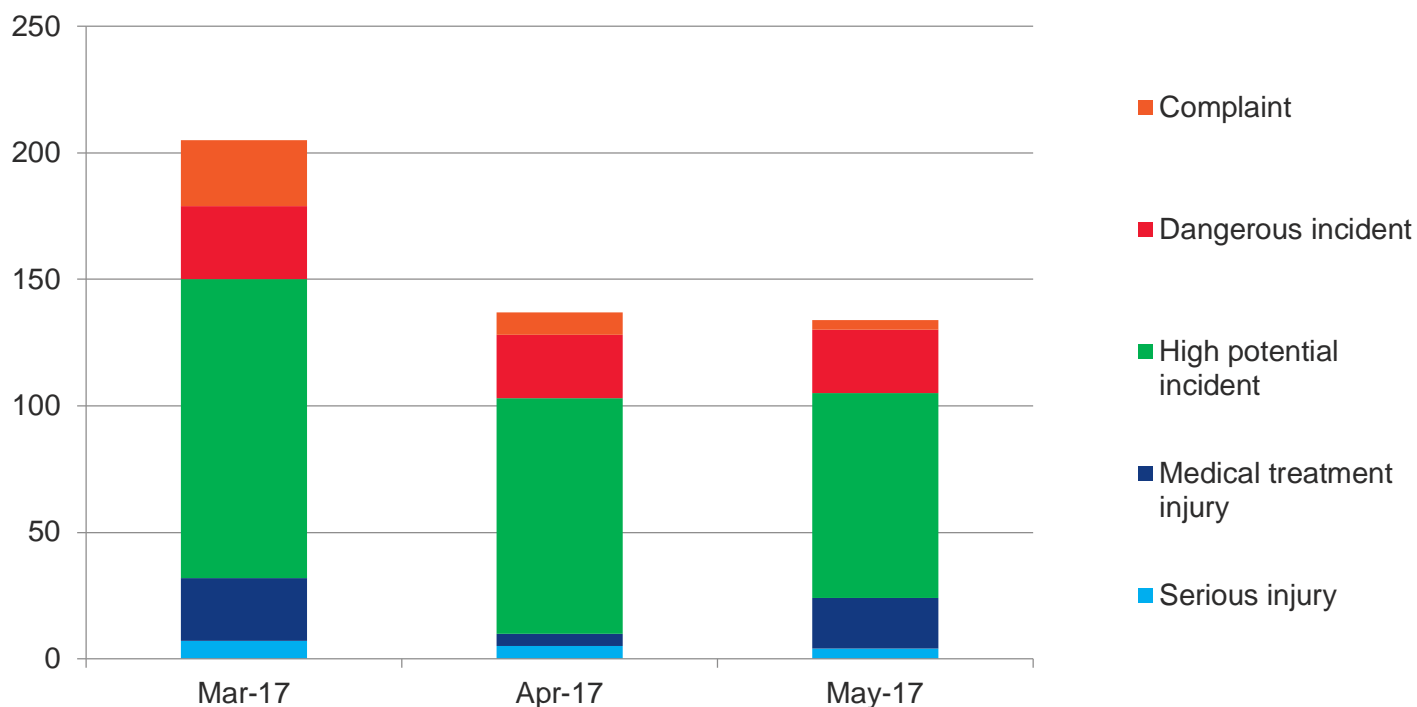
Type	Number
Reportable incident total	32
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

Type	Summary	Recommendations to industry
Dangerous incident SInNot 2017/00829	A truck driver weighed his vehicle on a weighbridge. As he got out of the truck, the driver stood on a manhole cover and fell 1 m into a void, which was located on the side of the weighbridge. An ambulance was called and the man was taken to hospital.	<p>The integrity of guarding, covers and their locking mechanisms must form part of the mine inspection and maintenance system. This is particularly important when they are constantly exposed to vibrations.</p> <p>Mine operators are advised of their obligations under sub-section 19 (3) the <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>:</p> <p>“A person conducting a business or undertaking must ensure, so far as is reasonable practicable:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the provision and maintenance of a work environment without risks to health and safety the provision and maintenance of safe plant and structures, and the provision and maintenance of safe systems of work.” <p>We recommend operators consider the recommendations in Safety alert: Fall from height risk and Safety alert: Truck driver fatally injured in weighbridge incident.</p>
Dangerous incident SInNot	A continuous miner was mining on the second cut in a longwall installation panel. The picks on the miner hit a mega bolt tail.	When undertaking a risk assessment for a high risk activities notification, for example, widening an existing roadway, mines should consider all hazards

2017/00821	<p>This caused one of the carbide tips on the miner picks to forcefully dislodge from the pick shank. The carbide tip travelled about 4 m and hit the operator of the miner in the throat.</p>	<p>associated with the activity. Such hazards may include cutting while in the vicinity of existing roof control measures. When identifying controls, the mine operator should also consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintaining safe standing zones • removing picks that are not required for cutting or could interfere with existing support • further reducing cutting height at the second pass to limit exposure to any potential interactions with existing supports.
<p>Dangerous incident SInNot 2017/00808</p>	<p>Two contractors were engaged by a contract company to carry out poly pipe welding and shaving. After completing the poly shaving, the two workers began packing up their tools. While dismantling a piece of portable electrical equipment, one contractor suffered an electric shock. The other contractor was demobilising the equipment at the time.</p>	<p>Mine operators must ensure that all electrical hazards are identified and that risks to health and safety are adequately controlled. This event highlights the need to effectively manage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contractor induction and training, including incident identification, notification and scene preservation • contractors' work authority and permits, for example, authorisation to perform hot work • inspections of contractors' equipment and introduction to the site by the mine • inspection and testing regimes that are appropriate for the working environment • supervision of contractors and their supervisors • job-specific hazard analysis, SLAM, TAKE 5 or JSA assessment tools • the use of generator set earthing and bonding, truck bonding, welders, electric cables and leads, use of appropriate ingress protection (IP) rated equipment, use of residual current devices (safety switches) • the work environment at the mine • the use of appropriately rated personal protective equipment that could include gloves, face shield, full length clothing, footwear and rubber mats. <p>We recommend operators to consider the advice in AS/NZS 3760: In-service safety inspection and testing of electrical equipment and the department's technical reference EES-014: Technical principles for the use of 'stand-alone' generators at NSW mines (coal and metals) and extractives operations.</p>

Number of incidents by type



Please note, the above graph is provided for illustration purposes and is advisory only.

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.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Planning and Environment or the user's independent advisor.

Office use only	
RM8 reference	PUB17/291
Mine safety reference	ISR17-21
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