

Fatal incident as bulldozer overturns into pit

Mines safety alert no. 362

What happened?

On Monday 31 December 2018 at approximately 10.30pm, an experienced 49 year old coal mine worker was fatally injured while he was operating a bulldozer at an open-cut coal mine near Dysart in Central Queensland.

The bulldozer was traversing—with the blade not in contact with the ground—along a bench in an area where three bulldozers were pushing overburden material.

The bulldozer operated by the deceased, for a reason yet to be determined, went over the bench's crest and rolled downwards approximately 20 metres. The bulldozer came to rest on its roof in an area of mud and water approximately two metres deep.

Another bulldozer operator who witnessed the incident 'called in' the emergency immediately and an emergency response team attended at the site.

Queensland Police Service attended at the mine and handed over control of the scene to the Queensland Mines Inspectorate.

How did it happen?

A formal investigation by the Queensland Mines Inspectorate into the fatal incident is underway. The cause of the incident has not been determined at this time.

