



## REPORTABLE INCIDENTS | WHS MINES LEGISLATION

# Weekly incident summary

Published 20 January 2016

Note: 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 and summarised in this report. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our [Annual Performance Measures Reports](#).

### Reportable incidents total

Level 1 incidents	Level 2 incidents	Level 3 incidents
36	7	0

Note: Incidents are categorised as Level 1, 2 or 3 according to the seriousness of the incident, with 3 being the most serious.

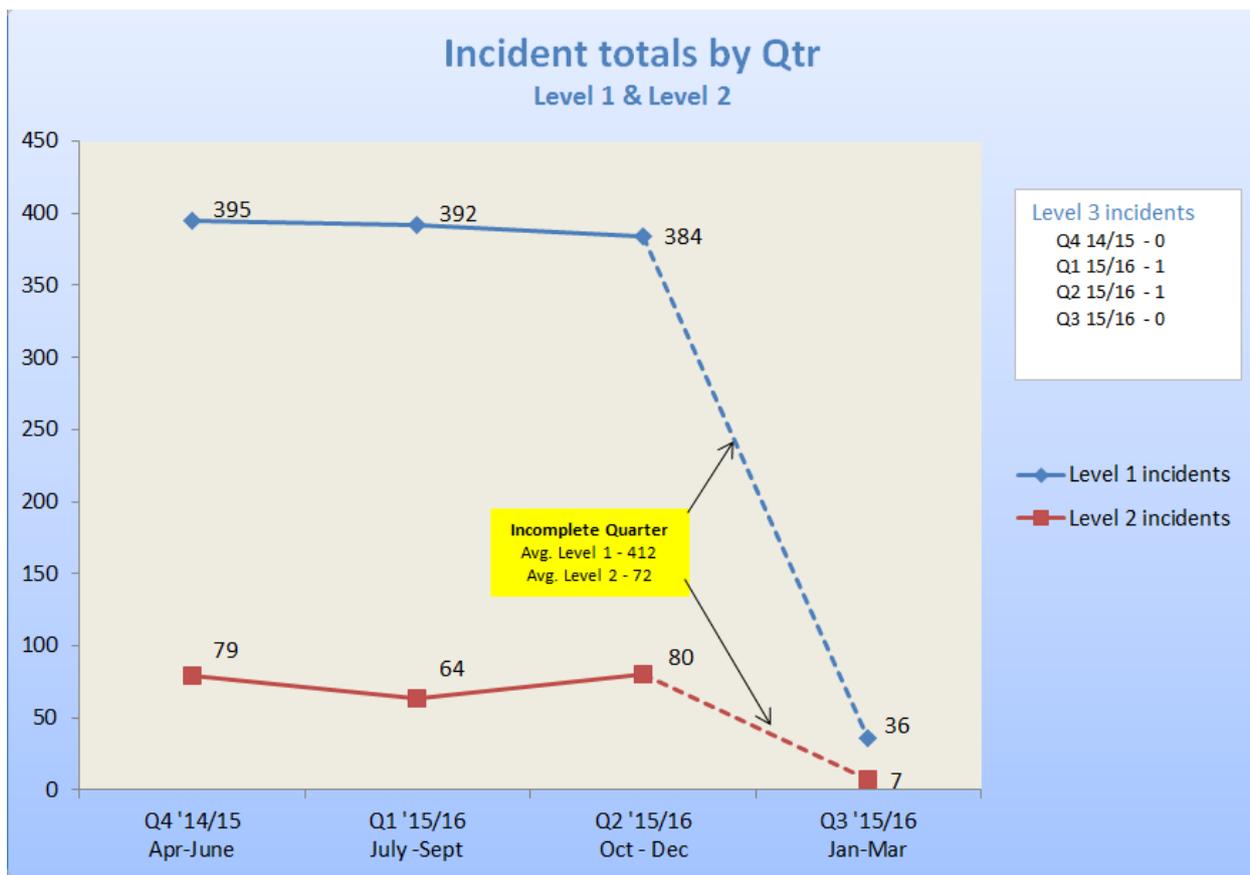
Injuries	Fatalities
5	0

### Reportable incidents overview

Note: While all incidents are investigated, generally only level 2 and 3 incidents are summarised below.

Level	Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
2	Mech Equip 317657964001	<p>The maintainer was assigned the task to test the air intake system for the engine of a truck for leaks. During the task the maintainer noticed that the blanking assembly that was clamped over the intake pipe, and supplies air for the test, was starting to move off the pipe.</p> <p>The maintainer went to disconnect the hose from the end of the blanking assembly and at the moment he grabbed the fitting to disconnect the airline, the blanking assembly moved entirely off the pipe and contacted his hand.</p>	<p>Review pressure testing procedure. Ensure Work health and safety regulation Part 3 is reviewed and understood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- adequate supervision requirements to be implemented</li> <li>- fit for purpose equipment to be utilised.</li> </ul>
2	Work Environment 317657971001	Damaged crib and toilet facility due to severe storm event	Mine operators are reminded of the need to ensure that the foundations and securing methods for demountable buildings are designed in accordance with appropriate civil engineering standards.

Level	Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
2	Work Environment 317657956001	<p>A 20 tonne excavator was being used to position a section of poly pipe in preparation for welding. After the pipe had been positioned, the pump operator approached the stationary excavator to unhook the chain that allowed for the pipe to be lifted by the excavator. The chain and excavator position was approximately 10m from the end of the piece of pipe.</p> <p>When the pump operator unhooked the chain, he let it fall to the ground, but it hooked on another section of the chain, which was not noticed by him or the excavator operator. The pumper operator turned and was walking back along the pipe away from the excavator when he was struck in the left leg by the moving pipe, as the excavator started to slew in preparation to move to another area.</p>	<p>Mines should have a safe work procedure for lifting, relocating and welding poly pipe. A risk assessment should be carried out and include the use of fit-for-purpose equipment, appropriate safety zones and positive communication.</p>
2	Gas 317657990001 317657998001	<p>A number of notifications for methane levels greater than 2.5% by volume have been reported from underground coal mine operations.</p>	<p>Underground coal operations are reminded of their obligation to control methane levels through the use of adequate ventilation quantity, methane capture and monitoring.</p> <p>Monitoring includes the selection of detection equipment that is suitable for the environment in which it must operate. This includes suitability for installation in high air velocities or for continual exposure to elevated levels of CH<sub>4</sub>, as determined by operational requirements for the mine.</p> <p>This may also require consideration be given to the use of sample pumps to provide controlled air flow over monitors while allowing for mounting of the monitors in locations that allow for maintenance and calibration activities.</p>
2	Work Environment 317657944001	<p>A lime plant attendant left the cabin of the articulated truck he was driving to collect some samples from the hydration plant. While he was out of the cabin the truck rolled backwards for a distance of approximately 100 metres and collided with the plant maintenance toilet block, causing extensive damage to the building and minor damage to the truck. The truck came to rest in a low point in front of the toilet block. No one was injured.</p>	<p>Mine operators should review the procedures for heavy mobile plant and ensure operators understand the shut-down procedure for the equipment being used at the mine.</p>



## Recent incident publications

**No new incident publications.**

You can find all our incident related publications (i.e. safety alerts, safety bulletins, incident information releases, weekly incident summaries and investigation reports) on our [website](#).

Should you wish to seek further information, please contact the following offices:

### COAL (NORTH) and EAST METEX

#### Maitland

NSW Department of Industry  
Mineral Resources  
516 High Street, Maitland NSW 2320  
(PO Box 344, Hunter Region MC  
NSW 2310)  
T 1300 736 122 or 02 4931 6666  
F 02 4931 6790  
E [mine.safety@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mine.safety@industry.nsw.gov.au)

### COAL (SOUTH)

#### Orange

NSW Department of Industry  
161 Kite Street, Orange NSW 2800  
(Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800)  
T 02 6360 5333  
F 02 6360 5363  
After hours – emergency only 02 6360 5343

### WEST METEX

#### Wollongong

NSW Department of Industry  
State Government Offices  
Level 3, Block F, 84 Crown Street,  
Wollongong NSW 2500  
(PO Box 674, Wollongong NSW 2520)  
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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (January 2016). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development or the user's independent advisor.