

Fatality involving chain feeder at a wash plant

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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

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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.