

# December 2016 Compliance Activity Report



Government  
of South Australia

SafeWork SA

## Mining

This report covers people working in mines, quarries, oil and gas wells and in mining support activities such as exploration.

SafeWork SA inspectors ensure work health and safety and public safety standards are met and take appropriate action when breaches are detected.

Inspectors responded to a number of incidents in December including:

- An electrician at a new mine site who undertook repairs to an electric stove in a renovated camp accommodation without isolating the circuit, and received a minor electric shock with no ongoing injury.
- A spill of a chemical solution occurred within a secure area of a mine ore processing plant. The spill was detected by alarms in the control room and mine emergency workers responded promptly. The spill was contained within bunds within the secure room and there were no workers present when the spill occurred.
- Fire in the electrical switch room of a process plant detected during de-isolation of plant following shut-down maintenance.

- A grader working in the decline of a mine caught on fire, with smoke observed coming from the engine bay of the plant. Fire suppression was activated and the fire was contained.
- A worker was travelling in the work basket of an integrated tool carrier (IT) and was drinking from a water bottle when the plant came to a sudden stop. The action caused the rim of the bottle to hit his lip, with the injury requiring suturing.
- Fall of ground in a stockpile/vehicle passing point of an underground mine was reported. No one was present when the fall occurred. It was identified when a light vehicle entered the area to allow other vehicles to pass on the decline. Following the review of evidence, a WHS Improvement Notice was issued in January 2017 to undertake geotechnical inspection of the main decline workings including workings used as vehicle passing bays.

Although six notifiable dangerous incidents were reported, five were triaged as routine enquiry and did not warrant WHS notices.

Report work health and safety issues to SafeWork SA on 1300 365 255 or [help.safework@sa.gov.au](mailto:help.safework@sa.gov.au).

