

DISTRICT 2 – COAL MINE NEAR MISS



An accident occurred on August 8, 2011 when a dozer operator was removing shot material from a bench to uncover the coal seam. He positioned the dozer on a 45 degree angle to the highwall to clear the wall of protruding rocks. The dozer turned parallel to the bench causing the right track to hang over the highwall. The dozer slid down to the right overturning once, landing on its tracks at the bottom of a 35 foot highwall. The operator sustained fractures to his, back, pelvis and left leg.

Best Practices

- Do not exceed the equipment's capabilities, operating ranges, and safety features.
- Always wear a seatbelt when operating mobile equipment.
- Adequately task train miners on the equipment they will operate.
- Conduct pre-operational safety checks of all mobile equipment.
- Train all employees on proper operation procedures, hazard recognition, and avoidance.