

District 2 Coal Mine Near Miss



At 6:00 am, on the morning of July 22, 2004 a contract rock truck driver arrived at the truck parking lot. The driver was to operate the Euclid R-50 rock truck which was parked with the bed pinned in the raised position. The driver removed the pin and entered the truck. The driver proceeded to travel 210 feet down the haul road and toward the plant without lowering the truck bed. At this point the raised bed contacted a 23,000, high voltage power line. Realizing he had hit the power line the driver stopped the truck and lowered the bed pinching the power wires between the truck bed and frame. The accident resulted in the contract rock truck driver being entrapped in the cab of the Euclid R-50 rock truck for a period of 1 hour and 45 minutes.

BEST PRACTICE

- Erect signs to identify danger zones
- Ensure all overhead power lines are high enough for all equipment to safely travel under
- Install high visibility spheres on energized power lines to help make the line location obvious to all workers.
- Locate parking areas away from power lines.