

Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On March 15, 2023, a miner drowned when the ground sloughed causing the excavator he was operating to topple into a water-filled pit. The excavator became submerged in approximately 25 feet of water.



Best Practices

Mine operators should:

- Install berms at the edge of the working surface so machinery can operate a safe distance from the water.
- Evaluate ground conditions and mining methods before operating equipment near water.
- Examine work areas and equipment and correct unsafe conditions.
- Task train equipment operators on the operation of machinery.

This is the 12th fatality reported in 2023, and the fourth classified as “Machinery.”

The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary information only and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553

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