

Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On March 5, 2025, a miner was fatally injured at a surface mine when flyrock from blasting operations struck him. The miner was assisting in detonating the explosives.



Best Practices

- Remove all persons from the blast area unless using suitable blasting shelters to protect persons from flyrock. Wait at least 15 seconds after the blast for any flyrock to drop and settle before exiting the shelter.
- Adjust stemming depth and/or decking to maintain adequate burden on all sections of the blast hole. Consider geology, face geometry, and surface topography when developing a drill pattern.
- Determine the actual burden for all face holes along their length and adjust the explosive power factor along the borehole accordingly.
- Only use approved capacitor discharge or generator blasting machines.

This is the tenth fatality reported in 2025, and the first classified as “Explosives and Breaking Agents.”

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

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

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