

Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On July 1, 2026, a miner died after a longwall shield hydraulically collapsed on him while performing maintenance on the shield.



Best Practices

- Block the shields against hazardous motion before working on components that support the raised portions of the shields. Review and understand the manufacturer’s maintenance and repair procedures.
- Be aware of potential pinch points when working on or near hydraulic components. Identify hazards that may be created as a result of the work being performed.
- Train miners who install, move, or maintain shields on proper procedures and hazard recognition, including manual operation of hydraulic control valves. Monitor personnel routinely to ensure they follow safe work procedures.
- Maintain good communication with coworkers. Make sure those around you know your intentions.

This is the 15th fatality reported in 2026, and the fifth 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 accident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

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

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