

## Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On May 19, 2026, an assistant shift foreman died after a large section of rib fell and struck him. Two contractors were also injured in the accident.



### Best Practices

- Conduct thorough pre-shift and on-shift examinations of the roof, face, and ribs and conduct examinations thereafter as conditions warrant.
- Train miners to recognize roof and rib hazards and to stop work in the area until hazards are corrected.
- Adequately support loose roof and rib material and scale loose material from a safe location before working or traveling in an area.
- Use the proper tool, like a slate bar, when pulling down loose roof or ribs.
- Take additional safety precautions where mining conditions change and mining heights increase or thicker rock brows are present.
- Always set posts or other floor-to-roof support from a safe location.
- Train miners to follow the approved roof control plan.

This is the 11<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in 2026, and the first classified as “Fall of Face, Rib, Side or Highwall.”

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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