

Mine Name	MineID	Operator	Activity Type	Activity Date
Oaky North Mine	MI01404	Oaky Creek Holdings Pty Limited	Inspection - Unannounced	15/10/2019

Vision: Our Industries Free of Safety and Health Incidents

Mine Record Entry

This report forms part of the Mine Record under s68 of the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999. It must be placed in the Mine Record and displayed on Safety Notice Boards.

Note that inspection or audit activities conducted by the Mines Inspectorate are based upon sample techniques. It remains the primary responsibility of Mine Personnel to identify hazards, and risks associated with Operations and ensure those risks are at an acceptable level.

Site Safety & Health Reps Consulted: Joe Barber

Today I , Kevin Poynter, conducted an inspection of the Oaky North Underground Mine. The purpose of my inspection was to undertake a SIG for Mining Development

I met with the following people during my inspection:

Michael Downs Underground Mine Manager (UMM)

Jon Freihaut Development Superintendent

Brad Watson Site Senior Executive (SSE)

Joe Barber SSHR

Barry Brigden Shift Supervisor

Mick Stenner Engineering and Maintenance Manager

Paul Doherty Outbye Superintendent

I requested a copy of the Development Panel Standards for 100m Gate Road Pillars and reviewed the document. I note the document was last reviewed 28 January 2018.

Surface Muster Area:

I attended the pre-shift briefing chaired by Barry Brigden. He was assisted by each of the ERZCs who went through activities in their respective areas. Workforce included both Glencore employees and contractors. Although a PA system was used the noise of the cooling fans did make it harder to hear. Good information was cycling through the various TV screens on safety incidents.

ERZC reports for 500 and 700 developments reviewed and found some reports not signed and not all the boxes completed.

Plans required to be displayed in the area were present. The Fire and rescue plan had 13 sheets and sheet 1 was found to be unsigned. This was rectified by the next day when I returned for a site meeting

Level 2 Heat Tarp was identified in the 500 series area.

Underground Inspection:

During my underground inspection I was accompanied by Barry Brigden, Joe barber and Michael Downs.

We travelled down South East Mains C heading. I noted a one way sign at the top of the roadway but observed vehicles approaching in the opposite direction. I was advised that due to the extraction of the BSL up B heading which is the normal one way route to exit the mine b heading was unavailable. As a result Vehicles exiting the mine are using C heading as a two way road.

Barry Brigden advised that he was part of the briefing. I suggested that hanging or posting a temporary sign over the one way might achieve a better or higher level of safety.

We stopped at 2 C/T East Mains and met with contractors Fenner who were undertaking a splice.

Their Slams had been signed by the outbye ERZC

As a group they had a good understanding of the risks associated with their task

They advised chemicals being used as TCE which is cancer forming

They advised that they had a supervisor but on questioning of the supervisor it appeared he was not appointed by the SSE. He then told me he was under the process of being appointed

I asked if they undertook and form of Biological testing and they stated they did not.

We travelled to LW 703 MG. Observed Emergency sign buried in dirt side of road 46/47 CT

Longwall MG 703 ERZC Terry Smith:

ERZC boards at entrance to MG were posted and phone was nearby.

Operator read out the ERZC boards for passengers which I found helpful

Tag Board for Diesel machinery and workers so we tagged in

Headings were generally in good condition and signage easy to read

Met ERZC at crib room and we reviewed plans and procedures available. Found to be as required and met the standard.

Caba sets checked and equalled the number of tags available on the tag board

Emergency response gear as required

Strata control met the requirements of the strata management plan.

Tell tale record board had not been filled out. Discussed with ERZC and advised this should be done.

QDS equipment present had compliance plates showing all in date. One had damaged plate which could not be read. Advised to straighten it so it can be read or if that's not successful remove it from service

Transformer installations met the appropriate standards. Cables well identified with dust caps for unused sockets and cables. DCB had water bottles stored on top which the ERZC asked to be removed

Maintenance was being undertaken on the miner. Work areas were well demarcated and isolation processes in accordance with site isolation procedures. Spoke to maintenance supervisor on the job and he was well qualified with respect to the hazards associated with the maintenance task

Roads were wet due to a burst fire hose

The position of CH4 monitor on the head of the miner was raised with me. There is a concern that the position under the head of the miner and back in the throat of the conveyor chute might not be effective. I subsequently requested the risk assessment for the change in position

We then travelled to MG 505 development

MG 505 Development ERZC Alan McPhail:

Panel entrance Tag and Diesel boards almost full. Only two Tags available for workers to enter. Myself and Barry Brigden tagged in and travelled to the face.

Heat tarp active and place was warm. Roof and rib support as per plan. Met with Alan McPhail and walked to work area. Secondary support was underway and grouting of support was being undertaken.

Area was demarcated and those undertaking grouting wore appropriate PPE. We then walked to return to inspect the ventilation set up. Only 1 fan in use at time of inspection and it had appropriate CH4 detection positioned.

Belt road was undulating which has caused ponding of water. This needs to be managed to ensure egress available in an emergency.

I checked tell tales in roof for movement .Nil observed but couldn't find the tell tale board for recording movement. To be replaced

We checked the Continuous Miner to see if the CH4 detector was sited in the same place. I climbed on top of the miner to check. Alan pointed out the position of the sensor.

We discussed the purpose of this sensor which is to detect accumulations of methane at the cutter head and where level reach 2% to shut down the head. I advised I would request the Risk Assessment on return to the surface. As we were exiting I again observed water bottle being stored on the DCB and asked for them to be removed

On our exit I observed the following crosscut full of equipment making access to the door through to the secondary escapeway difficult Crosscuts 8, 9, 16, 19. It is recommended that standards be developed on the storage of equipment in a way that does not block access to secondary escapeway

We returned to the surface.

I met with Mark Lydon EEM and discussed the position of the methane detector. I requested and he provided a copy of the risk assessment for the change in position which I advised I would review with our electrical inspector.

I also met with Mick Stenner and Paul Doherty with respect to the work being undertaken by Fenner. I am advised that in this instance more than one contract owner is responsible for the contractor. I raised the concern that the Fenner work group had advised that one of their group was a supervisor but had not been authorised by the SSE. On review of Oaky Nth documents it was clear that on that job he had not been appointed as supervisor and responsibility sat with the outbye ERZC. I requested further documentation as to the monitoring of the effectiveness of PPE with respect to the use of TCE chemicals. I advise that I will follow up on this at a later date. However it would be recommended that the Contract manager make enquiries with Fenner and ask for information on their monitoring programme for the effectiveness of PPE . Normally this would be an annual biological test to identify if long term exposure is affecting a workers health

Close Out Meeting:

I discussed the matters described in this MRE. Three key matters require action

- When the one way section of the SE Mains is over-ridden then temporary signage should be installed
- Ensure that Tell tale boards are available at tell tale sites and that they are filled in
- Ensure access between primary and secondary egress is not impeded by equipment or other materials
- Enquire with Contractor Fenner about their process for testing long term exposure to chemicals and the effectiveness of their PPE.
- Enquire with Contractor Fenner about their process

Please provide responses to the items raised in this MRE

I thank the mine for their assistance

Kevin Poynter
Inspector of Mines