

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Description of Fatal Mine Accidents
1988 – 2024

BITUMINOUS FATALS

[November 3, 1988 – Beth 33B – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was performing mine examiner duties, riding in jeep and for some unknown reason ran into tail of rock loader, sustaining crushing injuries of the chest.

[October 11, 1989 – Mine No. 1 – Classification – Electrical](#)

Victim was attempting to steal copper wire from de-energized overhead line leading to the mine. Victim was electrocuted.

[November 4, 1989 – Homer City – Classification – Machinery](#)

Operating mine locomotive crushed between top of locomotive and rails of roof.

[June 10, 1990 – Beth 33B – Classification – Machinery](#)

Portal bus was traveling along No. 4 track when vehicle derailed at the No. 6 chute north manual track switch. Victim was thrown out of portal bus and pinned between bus and cement block wall causing fatal crushing injuries.

[September 25, 1990 – Pitt Gas – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Unintentional roof fall, trapped, victim died of crushing injuries.

[May 19, 1992 – Beth 33 PP – Classification – Machinery](#)

Dozer operator was pushing coal into No. 4 feeder. Operator was backing up and dozer fell cab end first into a void at the No. 2 feeder.

[July 28, 1992 – Warwick – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim failed to seek refuge in a place of safety and was in the middle of the track entry while a trip of longwall shields were being transported.

[July 19, 1993 – Quemahoning No. 1 – Classification – Machinery](#)

Performing maintenance work on continuous miner. Co-worker left area, leaving victim alone. When section foreman was making his pre-shift exam, he found victim crushed between coal rib and cutter head of the continuous miner.

[November 5, 1993 – Penn Run – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was lubricating machine and became entangled.

[July 20, 1994 – Dora 6 – Classification – Other \(Powered Haulage\)](#)

Victim was run over and pinned under and between two P-242 tractors.

[November 16, 1994 – Mine No. 84 – Classification – Fall of Face-Rib](#)

Victim was performing his duties when a large portion of the mine wall separated and fell, striking victim in the back causing fatal injuries.

[June 17, 1995 – Mathies – Classification – Other \(Powered Haulage\)](#)

Victim received crushing injuries as the result of being caught between a stationary and moving object.

[July, 25, 1995 – Purco Strip – Classification – Machinery](#)

The victim was struck by a log being pulled by a bulldozer.

[April 10, 1996 – Cumberland – Classification – Machinery](#)

Moving stageloader from face when duke jack came loose and struck the victim causing fatal injuries.

[October 26, 1996 – Maple Creek – Classification – Other \(Powered Haulage\)](#)

Motor operated by victim was pulled under a skid striking him causing fatal injuries.

[February 7, 1997 – Bailey – Classification – Machinery](#)

Co-worker jogged stageloader conveyer chain, victim was pulled through the stageloader and underneath the crusher, causing victim to receive crushing injuries.

[March 28, 1997 – Mine No. 84 – Classification – Machinery](#)

Positioned between continuous miner and rib observing diagnostic indicators. While using remote control unit, victim caused the mining machine to move, entrapping himself.

[July 1, 1997 – Maple Creek – Classification – Fall of Face-Rib](#)

Victim was working as belt repairman underground when he was struck by a falling section of the mine entry wall.

[July 15, 1997 – Sarah – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was kneeling in by the rear bumper of continuous miner when the supported roof above him fell.

[December 22, 1999 – Dianne – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was operating a continuous-mining machine when a section of unsupported roof fell causing fatal injuries to the victim.

[October 29, 2000 – Bailey – Classification – Machinery](#)

Weld holding eyelet to steel beam imbedded in concrete structure failed, causing fatal injuries to victim.

[June 27, 2001 – Solar 7 – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Operating a continuous miner via remote control when fatally injured by a roof fall.

[May 11, 2002 – Mine No. 84 – Classification – Electrical](#)

Operator exited coal hauler while machine frame was energized.

[June 13, 2003 – Mt. Spring Mine No. 1 - Classification – Electrical](#)

Troubleshooting a power imbalance problem on mine power substation – electrocution.

[June 10, 2005 – Tracy Lynne – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Roof bolter crushed by a roof fall.

[December 12, 2005 – Logansport – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Roof collapsed on the continuous mining machine and employee.

[April 5, 2007 – Mine No. 84 – Classification – Slip or Fall](#)

Fracture to ankle – later died due to complications related to injury.

[February 18, 2008 – 14-North Impoundment – Classification – Electrical](#)

Truck-mounted crane became energized by a 25,000 high voltage power line while the victim was performing crane-rigging duties.

[February 25, 2008 – Nolo – Classification – Powered-Haulage](#)

Victim was setting up survey station in the shuttle car roadway, when he was struck and ran over by a shuttle car.

[April 18, 2008 – Little Toby – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was pinned between the bridge system and the mine wall.

[July 11, 2008 – Nolo – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was pinned against coal rib by a belt feeder.

[June 23, 2009 – Bailey – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was struck by a piece of rock, causing fatal crushing injuries.

[January 28, 2015 – Brubaker – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was struck by the continuous miner tail pinning him against the coal rib.

[February 20, 2015 – Heilwood – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was struck by roof rock and received fatal crushing injuries when he was pinned between a piece of roof rock and the top of the drill canopy.

[June 27, 2015 – 4 West – Classification – Other](#)

Victim attempted to close a set of air lock doors and they became dislodged and fell on him.

[January 16, 2016 – 4 West – Classification – Fall of Face-Rib](#)

Victim was struck on the head and back by a large piece of rib.

[September 11, 2018 – Kocjancic – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was crushed between the rib and the MBC.

[December 20, 2018 – North Fork – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was pinned between the bridge that attaches company number one and two MBC and the Rib.

[August 29, 2019 – Enlow Fork – Classification – Fall of Face-Rib](#)

Victim suffered multiple bodily injuries when a 25' x 8' x 3' section of rib failed, covering him.

[May 14, 2021 – Kocjancic – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was crushed when a rock fell from the unsupported roof.

[March 2, 2022 – Maple Springs – Classification – Fall of Face – Rib](#)

Victim was fatally injured when a piece of rib struck him.

[October 22, 2022 – Acosta Mine – Classification – Electrical](#)

Victim was fatally injured when he contacted energized components in a 480-Volt AC float switch electrical box (float switch box), while standing in a sump, in an outby area of the mine.

[October 2, 2023 – Maple Springs Mine – Classification – Powered Haulage](#)

Victim was fatally injured when he was struck by a shuttle car and pinned against the coal rib.

ANTHRACITE FATALS

[September 27, 1994 – Harmony – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was installing roof support when a section of roof fell, striking him.

[March 30, 1995 – Primrose Slope – Classification – Electrocution](#)

Victim was loading coal into the main slope car, utilizing the loading conveyor extending from the No. 1 Breast when he was electrocuted.

[July 25, 1995 – No. 4 Slope – Classification – Fall of Rib](#)

Two miners were fatally injured due to the collapse of three rib supports.

[July 16, 1998 – Tracy Slope – Classification – Explosion/Ignition](#)

Unplanned detonation of explosives causing fatal injuries to the victim.

[October 1, 2004 – Jeddo No. 8 Prep. Plant – Classification – Fire](#)

Trapped inside of frontend loader.

[October 23, 2006 – Buck Mountain Slope – Classification – Explosion/Ignition](#)

Fatally injured from forces of a methane gas explosion.

[June 16, 2008 – Harmony – Classification – Struck By](#)

Struck and pinned against the rib by falling rock.

[July 25, 2017 – Oak Hill Bank – Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was run over by a D9 dozer.

[November 29, 2018 – Waste Management and Processors, Inc.- Classification – Machinery](#)

Victim was struck in the forehead by a temperature probe caused by over pressurization of a hydraulic component on the rear of the valve manifold of the hydraulic system on a service truck.

[October 27, 2020 – Williamstown No. 1 – Classification – Fall of Roof](#)

Victim was installing roof support when a section of roof approximately 5.5 ft. wide, 9 ft. long and 2 feet thick fell on him.

[January 29, 2024 – Ellangowan Bank – Classification – Powered Haulage](#)

Miner died when the haul truck he was operating traveled over the edge of a stockpile and overturned.

July 25, 2024 – Stockton Mine – Classification – Powered Haulage

Brian Brotzman, 44, was killed in a coal crusher late on July 25 at the Atlantic Carbon Group's Stockton mine in Luzerne County. Brotzman's death was ruled an accident, and the coroner said the cause of death was mechanical asphyxiation. Final accident investigation report to follow.

INDUSTRIAL MINERALS FATALS

[April 26, 1993 – Springfield Pike – Classification – Explosion/Ignition](#)

Victim was air arc welding, he shut off torch and placed it in the tank compartment. Acetylene gas leaked from torch into tank compartment. Victim was blown 16 feet by the force of the explosion.

[February 8, 2004 – Graymont \(PA\) Inc. – Classification – Slip or Fall](#)

Fall from machine while opening hatches on tanker.

[August 18, 2008 – Coolspring – Classification – Crushing](#)

Chain being used to lift counterweight failed, causing counterweight to strike the victim.

[December 15, 2011 — Damascus 535 Crushing — Classification — Machinery](#)

The victim was operating a portable jaw crusher and fell into the jaw crusher.

[September 19, 2013 — T. G. Mountain Stone — Classification — Powered Haulage](#)

The victim W3S operating a 2½ ton truck up a steep roadway. He was hauling water tanks on the bed of the truck when the truck overturned on its roof and crushed him.

[October 10, 2014 — Lehigh Cement Company — Classification — Slip or Fall of Person](#)

The truck driver was inside a loading rack closing the hatch on top of a bulk tanker truck. When the victim raised the rack to access the hatch, he fell between the rack and rounded side of the truck and then fell to the ground .

[November 25, 2014 — Edwards Sand & Stone — Classification — Powered Haulage](#)

The victim backed the truck he was driving to the edge of the overburden dumpsite and started to raise the truck's bed to dump a load of material. The bank failed and the truck overturned falling 30 feet below. The victim died en route to the hospital.

[March 23, 2015 — Kane's Quarry — Classification — Machinery](#)

The miner was operating a walk behind masonry saw, positioned between the saw and a ledge, when he tripped and fell. The victim and the saw went over the 4½ foot ledge and the saw fell on him.

[August 22, 2018 — Birdsboro Materials — Classification — Powered Haulage](#)

The victim used an aerial lift positioned under the No. 3 tunnel belt to access the take-up pulley assembly components. As the victim was attempting to manually clean the north side of the west

end pulley, he became entangled between the rotating pulley and the moving conveyor belt, resulting in fatal injuries.

[July 26, 2021 — G & R Mineral Services — Classification — Slip or Fall of Person](#)

A contract employee was conducting maintenance duties at the number 6 cement cooler when he fell approximately 25 feet onto a concrete floor.

[January 7, 2022 – Lake Lynn – Classification – Crushing](#)

Victim was inside the loader cab when rock fell from the unsupported roof and crushed the cab of a CAT 988K front-end loader.

[September 8, 2023 – Sewickley Mine – Classification – Powered Haulage](#)

Victim died while he was working inside a recirculation hopper after a front-end loader dumped limestone material into the hopper.