

Title METAL/NON-METAL MINE FATALITY - Fatal Powered Haulage

Identifier <http://www.msha.gov/FATALS/2007/FAB07m15.asp>

Creator MSHA

What Happened A front-end loader operator was fatally injured at a dredge operation. He was operating one of two front-end loaders that were transporting a section of pipeline to the dredge pond. While the victim's front-end loader was positioned near the edge of the pond, a large section of the sandy bank sloughed off and submerged the loader. The victim was entrapped inside the loader cab and drowned.

Why It Happened The accident occurred because the procedures failed to adequately address the risks associated with work performed near the dredge pond. The mining methods used did not ensure that slope stability could be maintained in places where persons worked or travelled near the dredge pond. The waste sand shear strength of the dredge pond was incapable of maintaining a stable slope with the added dynamic of the front-end loader and the dredge pipe.

Recommendations Procedures should be established to ensure that persons can work safely near the dredge pond. The stability of tailing deposits should be determined before persons travel or work in these areas. These procedures should be posted and discussed with all persons working at the dredge pond.

Date 2007-07-18

Energies Gravity | fall of ground ; Gravity | falling equipment ; Mechanical | mobile equipment

Type Lessons Learned | Safety Notice

Coverage spatial ISO3166
US