

**TITLE/SUBJECT:**

WHS incident – Worker collision with oncoming oversized load on public road

Type: Serious Near Miss / Incident

LOCATION

Kamilaroi Highway, Quipolly, NSW, (Hunter Valley Corridor)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

On Saturday 4 February 2023, an ARTC employee (driver) was travelling to his accommodation on the Kamilaroi Highway, Quipolly NSW, after completion of a track machine transfer in preparation for the February Hunter Valley closedown.

At approximately 1600hrs, the vehicle collided with an oversized load (mining haul truck on heavy haulage float) which was travelling in the opposite direction. The driver was travelling at approximately 70km/h at the time of impact and managed to veer the vehicle off the road coming to a stop on the adjacent verge.

Initial reports from the driver indicate they did not see the police escort / pilot of the oversized load and only noticed the oversized load itself at the last moment before impact. The driver stated that he 'ducked' away from the driver's side in the cab of the vehicle immediately prior to the collision. The driver was the only occupant in the vehicle at the time of the incident and sustained no physical injuries, however the vehicle was significantly damaged.



Approved by: John Britto, General Manager Safety

Applicability: All ARTC staff & contractors

Issued by: Corporate Safety

HSE Category: Rail Safety

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Damaged ARTC vehicle.





Oversized load (mining haul truck on heavy haulage float) and the vehicle impact point.

ACTION REQUIRED

ARTC workers are reminded that vehicle accidents are included in our Fatal & Severe Risk Program (01), and whilst not all necessarily casual to this incident, everyone should adhere to the following risk controls:

- Always ensure you are capable and licenced to drive and safely operate the vehicle
- Ensure you are fit for the journey and not impaired by drugs, alcohol or fatigue
- Plan your journey including rest stops
- Adjust your driving to weather, change in road and or traffic conditions (e.g. wide load transport)
- Avoid distractions while driving
- Comply with road rules

Share and discuss this HSE Flash Alert within your team.

If working with contractors, ensure they are made aware of this HSE Flash Alert.

If you have any safety concerns with this HSE Flash Alert, please speak directly with your leader.

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