



VULCAN MINE

Standard Operating Procedure Highwall Mining Entry and Evacuation

Document Number:

VUL-SOP-125(2)(a) High Wall Mining Entry
& Evacuation

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Electrical Engineering Manager

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to effectively manage the risks associated with entry and evacuation of the highwall mining operations area as required by Section 125 of the Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation. The system must include standard operating procedures for the following:

- a) the entry of persons to, and the evacuation of persons from, and
- b) an area where highwall mining is carried out

2. SCOPE

This procedure applies to all Coal Mine Workers and visitors entering the Highwall mining operations area

3. PROCEDURE

Step 1: Entry to the Highwall mining operations area

Entry into the highwall mining operational area will be segregated by the installation of safety berms and access points managed by the placement of call up signs at entry points into the highwall mining operations area and any personnel or vehicles entering the highwall mining area shall establish positive communications with the loader in the work area prior to entering.

If there is no person present within the work area, then authorisation shall be obtained from the OCE can this be the HWM Supervisor to enter.

Using Mobile Plant

A clear roadway must be defined between the access point and the light vehicle parking areas to minimise interaction with Heavy mobile equipment associated with the Highwall mining operation. The access road to the light vehicle parking area will have the road edges delineated and constructed in accordance with VUL-MOP-128 Design and Construction of Mine Roads 4.2.4 Secondary access road.

Positive Communication

All personnel prior to entering the highwall mining operations area must make positive radio contact first with the loader operator and if no answer the Highwall mining supervisor.

If personnel are not normally part of the highwall mining operation, the loader operator or supervisor will advise the current activities that are taking place and the travel route to get to the light vehicle or heavy mobile equipment parking area.

Step 2: Entering the restricted area

Personnel that are not authorised must not exit the access road towards the highwall miner or highwall at any time "Restricted area". To enter the area personnel must be authorised or under escort from an authorised person. All persons are required to carry a two-way radio when in this area.

Personnel/vehicles and equipment that are required to enter the restricted area must use positive radio communication contact the loader operator for permission prior to entering.

The loader conducts the following activities in work area, coal loading, rehandle, in pit stockpiling and push beam loading/unloading.

If personnel or vehicles are entering the side of the Highwall miner the loader is operating in, the loader must stop operation ground all implements until the pedestrian or vehicle is clear of the area or outside the 50-metre separation zone.

Pedestrian access to the stockpile area

1. Pedestrians shall always comply with any signage in the coal loading area.
2. Pedestrians must have radio communications and use positive communication with the loader operator and shall have authorisation from the loader operator before entering the loading area.



3. Whenever there is pedestrian activity in the coal stockpile area, the loader operator must cease loading and notify the coal haul trucks to hold in the waiting area.
4. Pedestrians shall not work under the stacker conveyor discharge area without first isolating the stacker conveyor.

Light vehicle access

Light vehicles are not to enter the loading area without positive communication from the loader, or coal haul truck waiting area without positive communication from all coal truck operators in the area.

Coal hauler access

1. Coal haulers shall access the loading area by a designated access road.
2. Empty trucks must wait in a holding area and give way to the loaded trucks.
3. Truck drivers must always remain in positive communication with the loader operator, always following his instructions.
4. A safety rill shall be always maintained between the coal haul road and the crib room.

Step 3: Leaving the restricted area

Personnel or vehicles leaving the restricted area must notify the loader operator when they have exited the restricted area.

Step 4: Leaving the High wall mining operational area

Personnel and vehicles leaving the light vehicle park up inside the HWM Operations Area they must make positive contact the loader operator prior to leaving.

Evacuation

Step 1: Stop Activities

In the event of an emergency being called on channel 1

All Coal mine workers in the highwall mining areas shall:

- stop work activity immediately.
- park equipment in a safe manner and wait for further instructions from the Highwall mining supervisor
- maintain radio silence

Emergency outside the Highwall mining operations area

Notification of an emergency outside the highwall mining area, the highwall mining supervisor will await instructions from the incident controller for when work can resume in the Highwall operations area.

Restart highwall mining operations when permission has been received from the incident coordinator or evacuate the Highwall operations area to the emergency muster area.

Emergency in the Highwall mining operations area

The Highwall mining supervisor shall immediately proceed to the incident area assume the responsibilities of incident coordinator

- Contact the OCE directly for the assistance required
 - Assign a person to the Highwall mining operations access point to escort/direct emergency personnel
- OCE – Emergency response team

Step 2 Evacuation

The highwall mining supervisor shall direct all personnel to the emergency assembly area. The highwall mining supervisor shall account for all coal mine workers within the area.

Contact shall be made with OCE and await further instructions.

An evacuation route from the highwall mining operational area off the mining to lease shall be maintained.



4. DEFINITIONS

Authorised Person	A person who has the required competencies and has been appointed by the Site Senior Executive or delegate to carry out a designated scope of duties.
CMW	Coal Mine Worker.
Competent Person	Competence for a task at a coal mine is the demonstrated skill and knowledge required to carry out the task to a standard necessary for the safety and health of persons.
Positive Communication	Communication between operators where unit numbers are utilized to communicate intentions. Personal names and/or hand gestures must not be used. example: "Haul Truck 702 wishes to pass behind Dozer 028" "Dozer 028 copies that Haul Truck 702, you are cleared to pass" "Haul Truck 702 passing now"
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure.
SSE	Site Senior Executive.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SSE	Shall review and approve this procedure.
Highwall Mining Manager	Shall Establish & maintain this standard operating procedure
Superintendents	Shall Implement this standard operating procedure
Supervisors	Shall apply and monitor this standard operating procedure
All CMWs	Shall comply with the requirements of this procedure.

6. REFERENCES

- Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999 (Qld)
- Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation 2017 (Qld)
- Recognised Standard 02: Control of risk management practices
- VUL-SOP-076-Using Mobile Plant
- VUL-MOP-128-Design and Construction of Mine Roads
- VUL-PLN-035-Emergency Planning and Response Plan
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7. MONITORING AND REVIEW

A review of this Procedure can be triggered by:

- A site or external event directly related to the document contents.
- A legislated change directly related to the document contents.
- A change of method, technology and/or operation change that may affect the accuracy of this document.
- Outcomes from inspections, audits, hazard identification, risk assessment, or other processes where the actions recommended are directly related to the document contents.
- A change required by the site SSE directly related to the document contents.



8. DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date	Description	Document Controller
01	12/02/2025	Development and Implementation	Kelly Jensen

