## **VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MINES, MINERALS AND ENERGY**

## AZARD ALERT LIVE TOMORROW

## **Serious Personal Injury**

On Wednesday August 19, 2020 at approximately 1:50 a.m., a Mini Trac operator at a Dickenson County deep mine was seriously injured while helping with a conveyor belt setup. A rope that was attached to the belt chain was holding a portion of the conveyor belt. The rope broke causing the belt to fall and hit the victim. The victim was given First Aid on-site and then transported to a local hospital where he is being treated for possible head and shoulder injuries.



## **Recommendations:**

- Before performing any work, miners should evaluate the area and the work they are performing to identify any hazards associated with the task.
- ✓ All equipment raised for repair or other work shall be securely blocked prior to persons positioning themselves where the falling of such equipment could create a hazardous condition.
- ✓ Miners should position themselves away from areas where forces from released energy will travel.
- ✓ Additional safety talks should be held with employees assigned to assist with this type of work and discuss any hazards.
- Experienced maintenance personnel should be trained to recognize and correct unsafe practices as well as any dangerous conditions.
- ✓ Always remain vigilant and be constantly aware of your surroundings.

For additional information or assistance, contact the Division of Mines, Big Stone Gap (276) 523-8227 or Lebanon Office (276) 415-9650

ACCIDENT REDUCTION PROGRAM

