

September 2023



To British Columbia's Mine Managers:

Within the past month, there have been two serious incidents involving All-Terrain Vehicles and Utility Task Vehicles (ATVs/UTVs) at or near mines in British Columbia, one incident resulting in a fatality. The latest fatality is the second death in two years involving a UTV. Incidents involving ATVs/UTVs pose a high risk of severe injury or death. The lack of engineered safety controls and training increases an operator's risk. Safe operation requires adequate training and competency, particularly in challenging, mountainous terrain.

Due to these recent incidents and the everyday use of ATVs/UTVs in mines, we remind mine managers of the Office of the Chief Inspector of Mines' (OCIM) [Hazard Alert: ATV and UTV Rollovers on Mine Sites](#), released in early 2022. The hazard alert highlights the risks of ATV/UTV operation and provides general considerations for mine managers and operators to reduce the risks associated with ATV/UTV use.

The [Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mine in British Columbia](#) also has several mandatory requirements related to the safe operation of ATV/UTVs, including but not limited to :

- 1.11.1 & 1.11.2: Training
- 4.9.11 and 4.9.12: Rollover Protective Structures
- 4.9.13: Rollover Protective Structures ROPS
- 6.19.1: Operator's Responsibility

Each mine site and task will have additional unique operational requirements. Workers and supervisors must ensure safety remains the highest priority; effective work planning and risk assessments will reduce the risks and help prevent future ATV/UTV incidents. Consider reviewing your staff's competencies and training related to ATV/UTV use, including the terrain that may be prohibitive to the safe operation of offroad vehicles. Some resources that may help ensure the safe use of ATVs/UTVs include:

- [All-Terrain Vehicles \(ATVs\) and Utility Transport Vehicles \(UTVs\) Checklist | WorkSafeBC](#)
- [CCOHS: Off-Road Vehicles](#)
- [ATV Rider Training – Canada Safety Council](#)
- [Off-Road Vehicles - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

If you have any questions, please contact your regional Inspector of Mines or email mine.safety@gov.bc.ca.

Thank you for your attention on this matter,

Sincerely,


Hermanus Henning
Chief Inspector of Mines