

# **H**AZARD **A**LERT **L**IVE **T**OMORROW

## Surface Mine – Near Miss

On Wednesday July 13, 2016 at approximately 4:00 a.m., a near miss accident occurred at a Wise County surface mine. A dozer operator was in the process of clearing a bench when the left corner of the dozer caught solid material. This caused the dozer to turn sharply. The right side tracks went over the bench and caused the machine to turn over. The operator was not injured.



### Safety Key Points:

- Conduct a risk analysis . Examine work areas to identify all possible hazards. Ensure that hazards are evaluated and eliminated so tasks can be performed safely.
- Benches (with roads and berms) should be wide enough to allow safe operation and passage of equipment. Remember the rule of thumb for roads . They should be at least two times the width of the largest vehicle when there is a single lane and three and a half times the width of the largest vehicle for dual lane traffic.
- Berms are used to keep people and equipment away from unstable/unsafe areas. Roads must have berms where there is a danger of overturning.
- Roadway berms must be big enough to “restrain “the largest piece of equipment working in the area.
- Regular safety meetings should be conducted with equipment operators regarding possible tipping and roll over situations.