

# DANGER



Cherie K. Berry  
Commissioner

## IN AND AROUND MINES

# Fatal Accident

04-02

## FIRST FATAL INJURY OF 2004 OCCURRED IN SEPTEMBER



On Sept. 16, 2004, a 35-year-old maintenance man with 12 years of mining experience was fatally injured while repairing a starter on a forklift. During the maintenance process, the victim used a 10-ton hydraulic floor jack under the forklift's counterweight to raise the forklift. He did not chock the wheels or use blocks under the axle to prevent the forklift from moving or falling. As he was working under the forklift, the forklift slipped off the jack and fell, causing major head injuries that resulted in his death.

### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO PREVENT SIMILAR ACCIDENTS

- **Ensure** task training is provided before any task is conducted.
- **Evaluate** all tasks and identify potential hazards before performing the task.
- **Read** equipment operation manuals before performing new tasks.
- **Use** a lifting device that is compatible with the load being lifted and block equipment against movement before starting any repairs.
- **Never** work under a load that is only supported with a jack.