

Another Pile Driver Fatality

What happened?

A non-WSP engineer involved in the West Gate Tunnel Project suffered severe head injuries after being struck by a snapped piling rig cable and subsequently passed away.

What do we know?

All WSP staff involved in the project were not near the site when the accident took place.

The following information is based on media reports:

- At the time of the incident, test piles (driven pre-cast piles) were being installed
- The engineer was struck by a lifting cable on a piling rig when the cable became snagged and snapped, striking him around the head and neck
- The engineer was taken to hospital in a critical condition but passed away some days later
- The worksite was shut-down and WorkSafe VIC launched an investigation into the incident.

What do we need to do?

This is the second alert that we have released this year involving a piling rig fatality. Please share this alert with colleagues who may have pile drivers or other hazardous plant in operation at their sites.

A standing reminder that:

- Create exclusion zones that protect workers from the hazards of the equipment
- Ensure machines are not in operation while undertaking inspections in the danger zone.
- Maintain positive communications with operators while adjacent to their work zone.



- All plant and other motorised equipment must:
 - Be operated, maintained and inspected in accordance with regulations and manufacturers requirements
 - Isolated from personnel and other plant where practicable using exclusion zones
 - If deemed unsafe, immediately isolated or removed from service until it can be made safe.

Support

Refer to our internal [Plant Procedure](#) or contact our Corporate SHEQ Team via email ANZ.SHEQ@wsp.com or phone +61-7-3854-6666.

Employees and their families who may be affected by this event can contact the Employee Assistance Program for free, confidential counselling services:

- Australia - 1300 361 008
- New Zealand - 0800 327 669.