

# Hazard Alert



## Blocking Raised Dump Boxes

### Hazard Summary

In February 2026, a worker was fatally injured while working between the raised box of a dump truck and the vehicle chassis. The truck box was not mechanically blocked or otherwise secured and the worker became pinned between the box and the chassis.

### Contributing Factors

- The dump box was raised and not blocked or secured from lowering during maintenance.
- The worker was positioned in the crush point between the raised dump box and the chassis.



### Legislated Requirements

The following legislative requirements under PEI's *Occupational Health and Safety Act* General Regulations apply to this situation.

- **Section 30.6(3)** – Employers must ensure workers are adequately trained in lockout procedures for the particular procedure.
- **Section 30.7(1)(a)(b)(c)** – When machinery or equipment is shut down for cleaning, maintenance or repairs, employers must ensure workers lock out the source of energy and place the equipment in a zero-energy state before work begins.
- **Section 31.1(c)** – Employers must ensure power-operated machinery does not have steam, air, or hydraulic lines repaired while under internal pressure.
- **Section 31.1(d)** – Employers must ensure machinery is adequately blocked while repair or maintenance work is being done under the machinery.
- **Section 33.13** – Employers must ensure no person works under or goes under the raised parts of powered mobile equipment unless the raised parts are adequately blocked

## ATTENTION FARMERS

Chapter 6, Section 6.2 – Common hazards associated with machinery in the PEI Farm Safety Code of Practice identifies stored energy as a common hazard and recommends disengaging machinery and safely blocking any raised hydraulic equipment when performing maintenance.

### Box Body Props and Truck Bed Braces

Permanently attached to the box subframe, box body props pivot to rest on the truck frame and support the box at a single position. Pin locks, provided by the manufacturer, must be used to secure the box when raised and to store the body prop when not in use.

If work requires the box to be higher or lower than the body prop allows, the employer should contact the original equipment manufacturer for an alternative blocking method such as truck bed braces to provide safe access.



Other examples of situations where blocking is critical when performing maintenance include:

- Raised blades on bulldozers
- Raised buckets on backhoes
- Raised forks on forklifts

### Recommendations

Anyone operating, cleaning, servicing, adjusting, or repairing equipment must understand its hazards. Always control and block all hazardous energy and never rely solely on hydraulic or air systems to support raised equipment.

- **Develop and train workers on safe work procedures** for servicing hydraulic dump trucks and other powered mobile equipment where proper blocking is necessary.
- **Shut down equipment and isolate all energy sources**, including air and hydraulic pressure, before performing maintenance and conduct a pre-work risk assessment to identify potential hazards.
- **Make sure raised components of powered mobile equipment are mechanically blocked** or supported with an appropriate safety device before any worker performs work beneath them.
- Whenever possible, **work should be carried out from below the truck chassis**, even after securing the box.
- **Supervise maintenance activities** to make sure safe work procedures are followed.