**Paris Charles**, Executive Director of KY Office of Mine Safety and Licensing, spoke regarding "How Kentucky Views Contractors"

Contractors are not recognized by statute in KY – they are recognized as miners.

In 2004, 24,000 job observation analyses were done – most of them were with contractors.

We offer contractors in KY the same things that we offer to state licensees – new miner training, refresher training, etc. If available to a licensed operation in KY, then it is also available to any and all contractors.