

Ray McKinney, Administrator, Coal Mine Safety and Health presented closing remarks at the conclusion of the summit.

Mr. McKinney stated this was a real opportunity to come together and get the “real answer” and not the political answer to the issues and concerns facing contractors in the coal mining industry.

He was impressed with speakers and presentations given today. “Your programs are vested with personal involvement, placing value on your employees and co-workers. There is a road map of questions that we need to ask to enhance safety; how to collect data needed to target areas for improvement.”

Where do we go from here?

We must establish an important first step – COMMUNICATION. Contractors need to be a part of our problem solving groups within each district.

We must develop an up-to-date inventory and contact list for contractors for tracking purposes. There must be a co-operative approach for supervisor training/employee training.

Also vitally important is a system safety approach to contractor work on mine property involving:

- Training
- Tools
- Capacity

If we want to get to **zero fatalities** there are no options – **contract workers have to be as valued as the general miner population.**

Mr. McKinney expressed his appreciation to each participant for being there. He also expressed sincere appreciation to Mr. Dye for staying with us for the entire day. He relayed a special “Thanks” to the members of the Steering Committee for developing this summit.