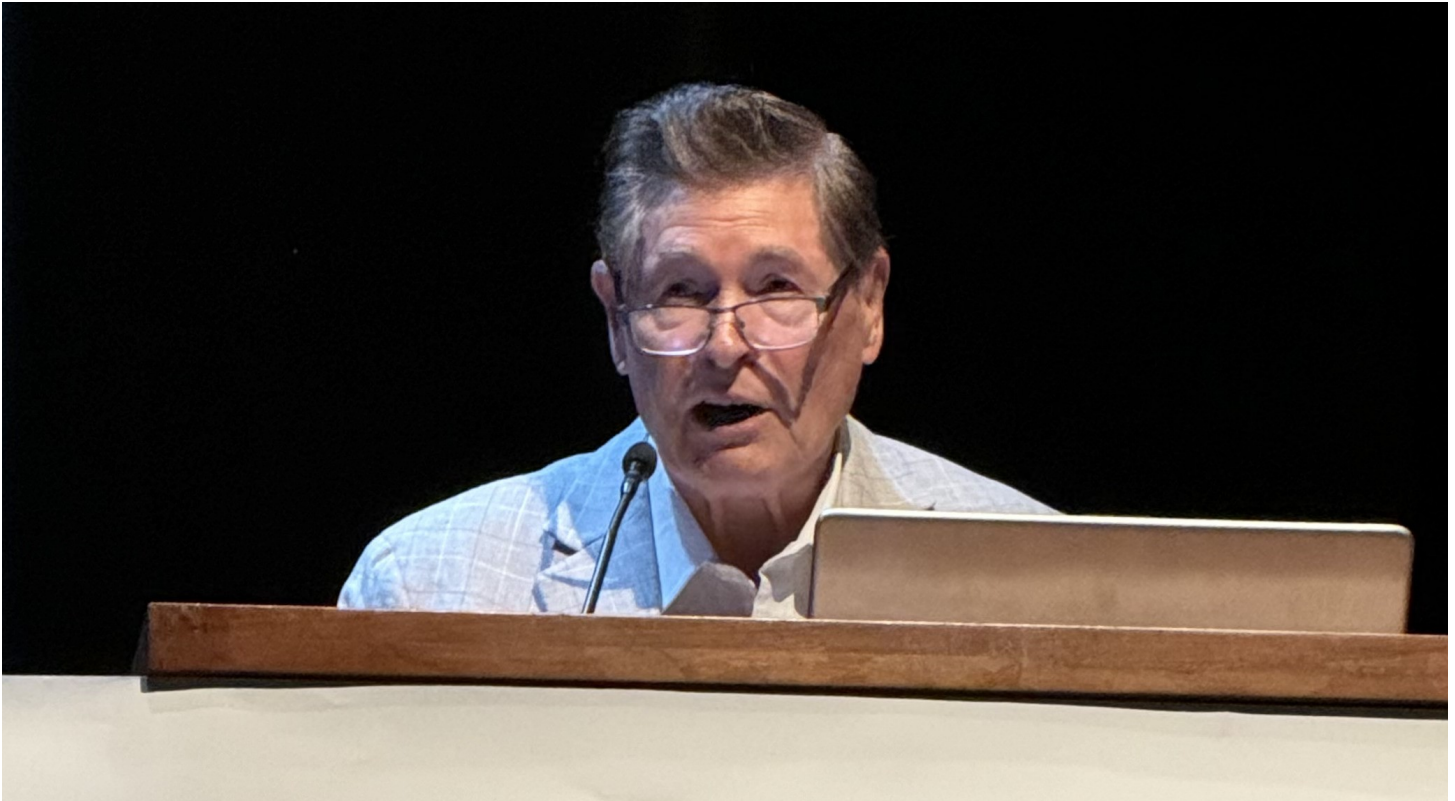


Reid Opens Bluefield Coal Symposium August 12



Bill Reid Opens Symposium

“It is a very great pleasure to welcome all of you to the Symposium presented by the Chamber of Commerce of the Two Virginias and CoalZoom,” said Bill Reid, Symposium chair and Managing Editor of CoalZoom. “This is the 5th Symposium we have produced for the Chamber and this one is going to be the best!

“We have planned this event to be a fun experience as well as being informative so we can all see where our great American coal industry is going.” Reid thanked the Sponsors without whom the Symposium could not have been possible and explained the Symposium theme **Using US Coal for a Better America** before outlining the four main goals of the event:

- to aid the search for zero fatalities
- to lift the spirits of those serving the industry
- to help promote MINExpo
- to examine the future of coal

“We want this to be an uplifting and enjoyable experience that will provide a lasting memory for everyone, who is here to take home,” he said.

Reid provided closing remarks on his opening statement. “The American coal industry and indeed, the coal industries of many countries, has taken us through the Industrial Revolution, two World Wars, and the Information Age. And now many wish to do away with it altogether. But I know all of you always defend the industry; but defense is not enough. We must go on the offence with 21st century coal technology and we have got to fight for coal together.”

Reid continued: “And so I say to you in the words of Winston Churchill: “Never give in! Never give in! Never! Never! Never! In nothing great or small, large or petty, never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to the force – never yield to the apparent overwhelming might of the enemy!”

“I think you might agree that these are great words for coal, right now!” Reid concluded.

A number of exhibitors displayed their products and services in the Atrium during the 3 days of the Symposium. These included: Conn-Weld, Fenner-Dunlop, Highland Industries, Jennmar, Jabo, Matrix Design Group, Paul's Fans, Paul's Automation & Controls, Strata Worldwide, West River Conveyors, and Women in Mining.

The Bluefield Coal Symposium was held at the Chuck Mathena Center in Princeton, August 12-14, 2024 with over 200 attending over 3 days.



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Jimmy Brock Delivers Keynote Address