The Virginia Coal and Energy Alliance and Southern States Energy Board Annual Conference was held at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Kingsport, Tennessee on May 23-24, 2016. The theme of the conference was **Coal: Weathering the Perfect Storm “Navigating Through Market Challenges and Energy Regulations.”** Some 200 people attended the meeting.

Russell Lorince, Chairman, Virginia Coal and Energy Alliance; and Kenneth Nemeth, Executive Director, Southern States Energy Board, welcomed the attendees. The Keynote Session then followed with the first speech by **Honorable Phil Roe**, U.S. House of Representatives, Tennessee. **Robert E. Murray**, Founder, Chairman, President, and CEO, Murray Energy, followed with an address entitled *The Ongoing Deliberate Destruction of the United States Coal Industry*.

A panel discussion then followed comprising David Lawson, Norfolk Southern Corp.; Dr. William “Bill” Murray, Dominion Energy; **Jimmy Brock**, CEO, CNX Coal Resources; **Jerry Mullins**, National Mining Association; Brooks Smith, Troutman Sanders; and **Dan Byers**, U.S. Chamber of Commerce for 21st Century Energy.

**Dr. Carl Zipper** gave a presentation on Virginia Tech’s Powell River Education and Research Project Program with *An Overview of the Powell River Education and Research Center’s Success Stories*. John Paul Jones, Alpha Natural Resources, added a few remarks.

After lunch, the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) Committee on Clean Coal Energy Policies and Technologies followed.

On the Tuesday, the meeting was called to order by Kenneth Nemeth, Executive Director, Southern States Energy Board. Keynote speakers followed comprising **Dr. Grace Bochenek**, Director, National Energy Technology Laboratory; **Dr. Susan Meacham**, Administrative Director, Preventative Medicine Research Center Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM); and **Dr. Daniel Matuszak**, U.S. Department of Energy.
A panel of state public utility regulators followed covering the subject of **The Role of Coal in State Clean Power Planning**. This comprised Dr. Kenneth Hill, Director, Tennessee Regulatory Authority; Commissioner **Jeremy Oden**, Alabama Public Service Commission; and Dr. Gerald Hill, Senior Technical Advisor, Southern States Energy Board, who spoke on **Adapting Power Generation Lessons Learned to Industrial CO2 Capture**. **Andrew Moore**, Platts Coal Trader, and **Jeff Erikson**, Global CSS Institute, also spoke. The conference was wrapped up by Kenneth Nemeth, SSEB, and Russell Lorince, VCEA.
Virginia Coal & Energy Alliance
Southern States Energy Board

VCEA Meeting Details

37th Annual Conference & Expo
Coal:
Weathering the Perfect Storm

“Navigating Through Market Challenges and Energy Regulations”

VCEA Information Booth

Carl Zipper
John Paul Jones