Day 1 took place on Wednesday, January 27, 2016. The welcome and introductions were carried out by Bill Raney, President, WVCA. This was followed by the State of the State 2016 presented by Charles Lorensen, Chief of Staff to Governor Earl Ray Tomblin. A session entitled Legislature Today took place with Senate President Lt. Governor Bill Cole and House Speaker Tim Armstead. Senator Capito (R) could not attend the symposium and sent a video message. Senator Manchin (D) similarly could not attend and also sent a message on video.

The Opening Keynote Address entitled Does the West Virginia Government Want To Retain What Is Left of the State’s Coal Industry and the Jobs In It? was presented by Robert E. Murray, founder Chairman, President, and CEO, Murray Energy Corporation.

This was followed by Coal Exports by Ernie Thrasher, CEO and Marketing Officer, XCoal Energy and Resources. A presentation entitled WV Mine Safety Performance was given by Kevin Stricklin, Administrator Coal Mine Safety Health-MSHA.

The Mountaineer Guardian Safety Awards Luncheon sponsored by Jackson Kelly took place with Pat Silvey, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations-MSHA, and the Awards Presentation carried out by Eugene White, Director, WV Office of Miners Health Safety and Training.

Two Eustace E. Frederick Milestones of Safety Awards were presented to Arch Coal, Inc., Tygart Valley, Leer Complex, and Harrison County Coal Company, Harrison County Mine. The Bart B. Lay, Jr. Milestone of Safety Award was won by Phoenix Coal-Mac, Holden No. 22 Surface Mine.

In the afternoon, Tom Clarke, President and CEO, Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund (ERB-Compliant Fuels) made a presentation entitled Mining in the Appalachian Basin with Carbon Credits.

This was followed by Coal Safety Lawyers chaired by Mark Heath, Spillman, Thomas & Battle. The presentations were: Civil & Criminal Prosecutions under the Mine Act by Alex Marcia, Spillman, Thomas & Battle; Federal Penalty Rules by Dave Hardy, Hardy Pence PLLC; Roadblocks Implementing Technological Change, Arthur Wolfson, Jackson Kelly, PLLC; MSHA: What to Expect in 2016 by Jonathan Ellis, Steptoe & Johnson; The Clash Between MSHA Special Investigators and Civil Penalty Cases by Bob Beatty, Dinsmore & Shohl.
A panel discussion entitled *Preparing WV’s SIP/Clean Power Plan* was presented by Tom Clarke, WV DEP Senior Policy Advisor, and Frank Blake, AEP Environmental Engineer. Day 1 then adjourned with the *Legislative Reception* taking place in the evening.