

**UTAH LABOR COMMISSION
MINE SAFETY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 11:00 A.M.
Carbon County Events Center
310 South Fair Grounds Road
Price, Utah 84501**

The following Advisory Council members were in attendance:

Kent Houghton, Chairman
Steve Childs, Skyline Mine
Miles Nelson, Associate Vice Chancellor, College of Eastern Utah
Mike Dalpiaz, International Vice President, United Mine Workers of America
Kristine Pankow, University of Utah, Associate Director of Seismograph Stations
Kim McCarter, Professor, University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering
Don Shelley, United Mine Workers of America
Todd Bingham, President, Utah Mining Association
Ralph Sanich, Manager of Health Safety and Training, Interwest Mining Company
J D McKenzie, Coal Mine Engineer, Bureau of Land Management
John Baza, Division Director, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil Gas and Mining

Absent:

Jimmy Brock, Senior Vice President, Consol Energy
Randy Taton, President, Mine Health and Safety Solutions
Allyn Davis, District 9 Manager, MSHA
Bruce Riches, Captain, Department of Public Safety
Terri Watkins, Chief Nursing Officer, Castleview Hospital
Greg Funk, Emery County Sheriff
John Byars, Manager of Engineering, SUFCO Mine, Arch Coal

Legislative Liaison present:

Senator David Hinkins

Others present:

Pete Hackford, Division Director, Utah Labor Commission
Debbie King, Administrative Secretary, Coal Miner Certification
Gary Leaming, Safety Director, SUFCO Mine, Arch Coal

1. **Kent Houghton, Chairman – Meeting called to order 11:05 A.M.**
 - Review of last meetings' minutes for December 15, 2011 meeting.
 - Mike Dalpiaz made a motion to approve the minutes as written
 - Miles Nelson seconded the motion
 - Minutes were approved by voice vote
2. **Report to MSTAC-** Kent Houghton addressed the meeting and gave a summary of the activities of The Office of Coal Mine Safety for this quarter. During the quarter he visited every underground mine in the state and met with their respective safety departments. He attended the local emergency planning committee meeting in Carbon, Emery and Sevier Counties. He was successful in petitioning the Carbon County Commissioners to allow the Horizon mine to use the

Carbon County Event Center for the meeting place for their families in the event of a mine disaster. He gave an overview of the safety statistics for the Utah coal mines in 2011 and a safety overview of the coal mines to date this year. He gave an update on new technology available in the mining industry and some proposed new technology. No mines conducted any emergency response training during the quarter.

- Kim McCarter of the University of Utah gave a presentation on the DINSAR satellite aerial ground subsidence surveillance system and its potential as a mine safety diagnostic tool.
 - Kristine Pankow of the University of Utah Seismograph Stations provided a overview of the statewide Utah Shake Out exercise that was to be conducted on April, 17 2012. As part of the discussion, she showed a web site with additional earth quake scenarios and discussed general earth quake preparedness guide lines.
 - Kent Houghton provided copies of the Utah Quaternary fault map obtained from the Utah Geological Survey to those in attendance.
3. **Review of the Recommendations of the Utah Mine Safety Commission-** The MSTAC committee reviewed the original recommendations of the Mine Safety Commission to determine the present status and pertinence of the recommendations. Each of the original recommendations was discussed by the committee. Many of the recommendations have been adopted and are in place such as the Office of Coal Mine Safety and the MSTAC committee. It was the consensus of the committee that many of the original recommendations are now not feasible due to budget short falls and changes in circumstances such as the Western Training and Education Center being the center for coal miner training and education and is now no longer in existence. It was determined that at the next meeting we would summarize what is now in place and how the committee could improve and expand upon it to further safety and education for the coal mining industry in the State of Utah..
 4. **Old Business-** There was no old business to discuss.
 5. **New Business-** The Office of Coal Mine Safety will draft a summary of the Mine Safety Commission recommendations that are now in place and feasible for further discussion by the committee.
 6. **Adjourn-** There was no further business and there were no objections.
 - Kent Houghton adjourned the meeting at 1:30 P.M.
 7. **Next Meeting-** There was discussion on trying to schedule the MSTAC meetings after the MSA/BLM quarterly meeting so the committee could be updated on that meeting during the quarterly MSTAC meeting. Kent Houghton will check on the MSHA/BLM meeting schedule and we will try to set the next meeting date to accommodate this.