



State of West Virginia
Joe Manchin III, Governor

WV Office of Miners' Health, Safety & Training
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TO: West Virginia Mining Industry
WV Certified 40 and 80 Hour Trainers

FROM: Ronald Wooten, Director *RLW*

RE: Listing of Certified Trainers in West Virginia

DATE: April 15, 2008

Recently several concerns have been raised by applicants for apprentice miner cards, as to the adequacy of the training that they have received. Many such applicants have felt that they did not receive their money's worth, especially as related to the time of the training. This office has received several complaints stating that individuals did not receive the requisite 40 and 80 hours of training prior to being sent to test for their Apprentice Miner certification. This office has investigated some of these complaints, and has confirmed the validity of these concerns. Accordingly, the following actions are being taken:

- All Trainers have been requested to update their individual information for publication on the agency's website. The agency will require this information on an annual basis.
- Information received will be verified, initially by phone (If the individual, supplying the information, is not reachable for verification after several attempts, such individual will not be included on the agency website as a trainer certified to teach the 40 and/or 80 hour classes, regardless of Federal Mine safety and Health Administration certification). From the information received and verified the agency will compile a list of approved trainers.
- This agency will follow-up with spot visits to these classes to assure that the requisite training in approved facilities is occurring; and
- EFFECTIVE MAY 15, 2008, ALL APPROVED TRAINERS WILL BE LISTED ON THE AGENCY'S WEBSITE. UNLESS A TRAINER IS LISTED ON SUCH SITE, HE OR SHE IS NOT APPROVED TO CONDUCT 40 OR 80 HOUR TRAINING IN WEST VIRGINIA.

Any company, which has certified trainers for in-house training but has not previously listed such trainers on the Agency's web site, should contact Mr. David Kessler in this office. His direct number is 304-957-2303 or you may call 304-558-1425.

RLW: ks