



ROCK TALK

KENTUCKY CRUSHED STONE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

- October 2008 -

News Articles

- [Mike Hancock Named as State Highway Engineer](#)
- [Mine Workers Testify on Drug Rule](#)
- [MSHA Reconvenes Drug Hearing](#)
- [35th Annual Kentucky Blasting Conference](#)
- [New Procedure Instruction Letter Coming From MSHA](#)
- [NIOSH Safety Seminar for Underground Stone Mines](#)
- [Message from Dean and Judie Blake](#)
- [Kentucky Aggregate Technician Program](#)
- [Meeting Information](#)
- [Contact Information](#)

Mike Hancock Named as State Highway Engineer

An official announcement came out earlier this month that Mike Hancock had been appointed as the State Highway Engineer. He has been serving this position on an acting basis for several months. Mr. Hancock is a career Cabinet employee with many years of experience and has spent a good portion of his career working with the six year highway plan while doing program management and has also served as the Cabinet's Chief of Staff.

[Return to Top](#)

Mine Workers Testify on Drug Rule

Mine workers who alleged they were cut out of an earlier hearing on MSHA's proposed drug rule got their chance to speak at a second hearing on October 28, 2008.

Forty-five members of the United Mine Workers (UMW) and the Steelworkers (USW) took advantage of the opportunity. Some used part of their time to complain anew at the audio conference, which allowed testimony to be presented by conference call only from sites in Birmingham, Al, Beckley, WV, and Virginia, MN.

Representatives from two coal mining companies, a service provider and an employee of a contractor company also testified.

MSHA's proposal, issued Sept. 8, requires mine operators to develop a written drug policy, train miners working in safety-sensitive positions and their supervisors, conduct testing, and allow miners one chance to shake a substance abuse problem without adverse consequences. Testing must be done at pre-employment, randomly, for reasonable suspicion, after accidents, and as part of a referral and follow-up procedure after testing positive or voluntarily admitting a substance abuse problem. Testing can be done for ten drugs, five of which are prescription medications.

The original 30-day comment period has been extended twice, and now expires at midnight Eastern Time Nov. 10, 2008.

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[Return to Top](#)

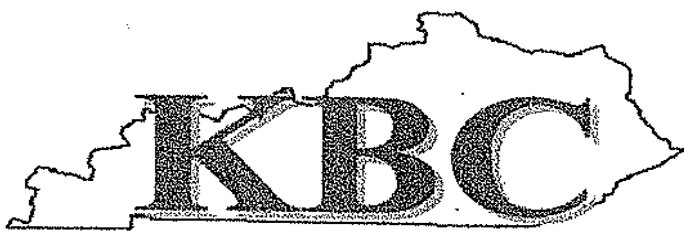
MSHA Reconvenes Drug Hearing

MSHA reconvened Drug Hearing October 28, 2008 to take testimony on its proposed drug rule after a busload of miners showed up after the initial proceeding had ended and the court reporter had exited the meeting room.

After 15 additional miners provided testimony, Silvey closed the proceeding for the second time at about 6:30 p.m.

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[Return to Top](#)



**35th Annual Kentucky
Blasting Conference**
Lexington, Kentucky
December 4-5, 2008

Download Form: <http://www.author-works.com/media/media-31061.pdf>

[Return to Top](#)

New Procedure Instruction Letter Coming from MSHA

Under mounting pressure MSHA is in the process of revising the procedure on informal safety and health conferences to help alleviate the backlog of contested citations.

The February PIL remains in effect until the new PIL is issued, hopefully by the end of 2008 or early 2009.

The number of contested cases has gone from 4108 in FY'07 to 8924 in FY'08.

[Return to Top](#)



SAFETY SEMINAR FOR UNDERGROUND STONE MINES

**December 9-10, 2008
Holiday Inn—Louisville-South/Airport
Louisville, Kentucky**



Sponsored by

**National Institute for Occupational Safety
and Health**

Mine Safety and Health Administration

**National Stone, Sand and Gravel
Association**

Kentucky Crushed Stone Association



Download Registration:

<http://www.author-works.com/media/media-31060.pdf>

[Return to Top](#)

Message from Dean and Judie Blake

On June 30, 2008, Mr. Dean Blake retired from Plantmix Asphalt Industry of KY (PAIKY). Dean had served PAIKY as Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director for 20 plus years. As a token of our appreciation the Kentucky Crushed Stone Association and Kentucky Association of Highway Contractors gave Dean and his wife, Judy, a three day trip to the Greenbrier in West Virginia. Here's what they had to say about the gift and weekend:

Dear KCSA Members and Staff,

Dean and I had such a wonderful time at the Greenbrier earlier this month. Marsha and Arthur Walker Jr. were there adding such joy to our visit. We will never forget your kind gift. You have a special place in our hearts.

Thank You,
Judie and Dean Blake

[Return to Top](#)

KENTUCKY AGGREGATE TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

**DEADLINE for Regular Registration is Monday, November 3, 2008,
Late registration must be turned in by Friday, November 14, 2008**

KATP PROGRAM REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

The following registration guidelines must be maintained in order to properly administer the KATP program and allow for its continued operation.

1. Registrations and money for program participants must be received before each applicant attends the program. The state will be billed for all state employees.
2. Late registrants will be placed in classes based on availability. All applications are time/date stamped and classes are filled as they are received. First choices of applicants may not be available.
3. All class rosters are completed and classes are closed on their late registration deadlines date. Applications received after late registration will not be accepted.
4. Class participants who show at a class on the wrong date will not be admitted.

If you have any questions concerning which course your personnel should register for, please contact us.

**2009 Kentucky Aggregate Technician Program Registrations
Sampling Technician:**

<http://www.author-works.com/media/media-27900.pdf>

Requalification Exam:

<http://www.author-works.com/media/media-27899.pdf>

Qualified Aggregate Technician:

<http://www.author-works.com/media/media-27901.pdf>

[Return to Top](#)

Meeting Information

Kentucky Blasting Conference	December 4-5, 2008 Lexington, Kentucky
NIOSH Safety Seminar	December 9-10, 2008 Louisville, Kentucky
2009 KHI Convention	The Cove Atlantis Paradise Island Nassau, Bahamas February 22-28, 2009
KCSA Teachers' Workshop	June 17-18, 2009 Georgetown, Kentucky
2009 KCSA Summer Meeting	French Lick Resort Casino August 6-9, 2009

[Return the Top](#)

Kentucky Crushed Stone Association

- If you would like for another employee to receive this newsletter, please forward the email address to info@kycsa.org.
- Let us know if your company has news to be included in the KCSA newsletter, info@kycsa.org.

[Return to Top](#)

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