



Correction: Samuel Lindsey of Mortons Gap in Hopkins County was 23 years old; not 33 as reported previously.

Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Ricki Gardenhire
502-564-5525

Update: Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing Reports Two Fatalities at Mine in Ohio County *Crew members identified*

Frankfort, Ky. (Oct. 28, 2011) – Rescue attempts were unsuccessful today in Ohio County where two men from a blasting crew were trapped inside a truck after being covered by rock and material from a highwall collapse.

Crew members have been identified as 47-year-old Darrel Winstead of Madisonville and 23-year-old Samuel Lindsey of Mortons Gap in Hopkins County. The two men were blasters at MEMSCO, which also does business as the Mine Equipment and Mill Supply Company. MEMSCO has an office in Dawson Springs and is owned by Midland Powder Company of Evansville, Ind.

Officials with the Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing will conduct preliminary interviews today with formal interviews to begin tomorrow morning at the office of the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration in Beaver Dam, Ky.

The highwall collapse took place at 6:45 a.m. at Armstrong Coal Company's Equality Mine near Centertown in Ohio County.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends affected by today's tragedy," said Governor Steve Beshear. "Mine safety is of paramount importance, and investigative teams will begin work immediately to determine the

cause of this accident and whether there are any steps that can be taken to ensure such an accident does not occur again."

"This is a terrible day for our mining families across our state, and our thoughts and prayers are with the families of these two men," said Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Len Peters. "We will continue our aggressive efforts to ensure a safe working environment for the thousands of men and women who work above and below ground each day."

Today's accident brings the number of 2011 mine-related fatalities in Kentucky to six.

###