



State of West Virginia
Joe Manchin III
Governor

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Greetings from the Governor

As Governor, it is my pleasure to welcome each of you to today's meeting regarding the prevention of what is commonly referred to as "Black Lung." I am truly sorry I cannot join you personally; however, I want to thank you for your commitment to the health of West Virginia miners.

As we have learned in the past, few things are more important than the protection of our miners. In the interest of achieving this invaluable goal, MSHA is looking out for those who truly make mining possible in West Virginia by implementing a specific "Black Lung" strategy. This plan of attack will teach the industry how to best use and improve existing regulations. After all, coal is vital to our economy and an integral part of our culture and history.

On behalf of Mountaineers everywhere, I offer my sincere best wishes. I have no doubt today's event will be a tremendous success!

With warmest regards,

Joe Manchin III
Governor

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