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Report: Continued hard times for Appalachian coal

Staff Business First

A new report predicts ongoing struggles for coal from the Appalachian region.

<u>According to the Associated Press</u>, the report from the Morgantown, W.Va.-based Downstream Strategies said government data shows coal production in Central Appalachia is expected to fall from 185 million tons in 2011 to 128 million tons by 2020, a 31 percent drop.

Along with Eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia, the region includes lower producing mines in Tennessee and Virginia. The report is a follow-up to a 2010 report, AP adds.

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