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Dear, Honorable Kathy A. Surratt - States

I started working for Peabody Coal Co. on April 4th 1979 till Dec. 1999. During that time receiving countless trinkets for daily, monthly & yearly record production tonnage. Nearly all my 20+ years operating a continuous miner. And in 1999 I had a Chest X ray revealing 3 spots on my lungs, shortly after Peabody Coal Co. stoped production and closed the Marissa Mine, where I worked. And my father retired from, ending my career in mining.

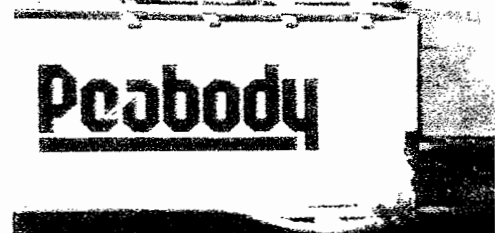
As of November 20, 2012, I turned 55 years of age, making me eligible for a health card that was promised to me from Peabody Coal Co. after giving them the best years of my life.

Please don't let Peabody Coal Co. (Now called Patriot Coal) take away the benefits that was promised to me and my family, along with thousands of other families that your decision will effect.

Enclosed is a article that appered in the Peabody Pulse, spring 1987 magazine that boast record tonnage of all Peabody mines in Illinois at that time and continued till the time Peabody closed all mines listed in this article

David J. Smith
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P.S. thats me in the picture



Illinois Division President Jack Bennett

Tons Shipped (in millions)

| | 1985 | 1986 | Plan 1987 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Surface Mines | | | |
| Power | .65 | .63 | .22 |
| River King No. 3 | .52 | .04 | 0 |
| River King No. 6 | .53 | 1.02 | 1.02 |
| Rogers County No. 2 | .30 | .28 | .29 |
| Will Scarlet | .71 | .78 | .74 |
| Total Surface | 2.71 | 2.75 | 2.27 |
| | | | |
| Underground Mines | | | |
| Baldwin | 1.94 | 1.98 | 1.83 |
| Eagle No. 2 | 1.22 | 1.11 | 1.18 |
| Marissa | 1.53 | 1.41 | 1.47 |
| Mine No. 10 | 2.52 | 2.73 | 2.50 |
| River King No. 1 | 1.30 | 1.29 | 1.23 |
| Total Underground | 8.51 | 8.52 | 8.21 |
| Grand Total | 11.21 | 11.65 | 11.03 |

(totals may not add due to rounding)

While total production remained flat for the Illinois Division in 1986, it too, saw strong improvements in production efficiency. In 1985, the Illinois Division's saleable tons per manshift was 14.78. In 1986, this number was improved to 15.95 tons per manshift, or an improvement of 8 percent.

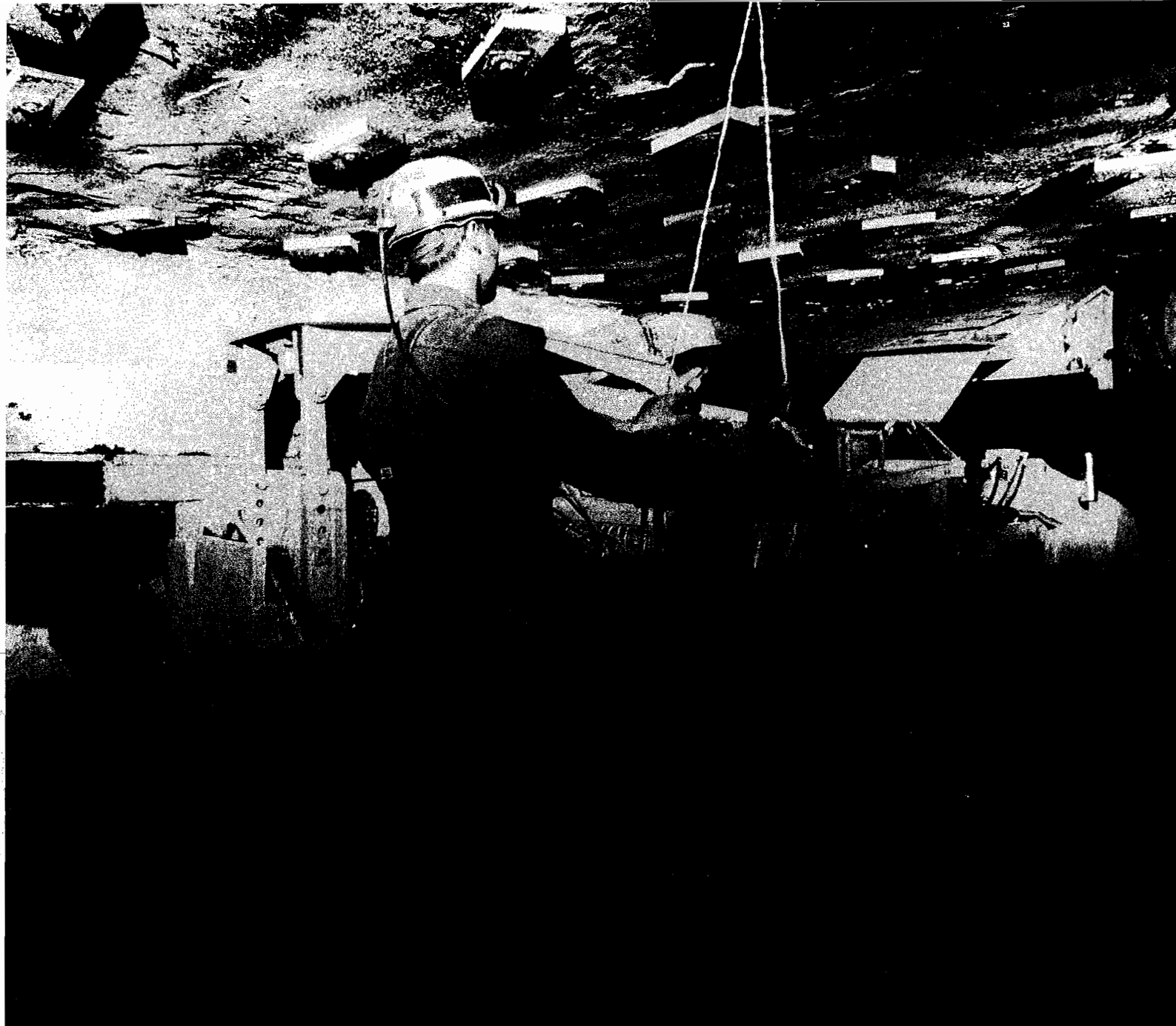
Says Jack Bennett, President of the Illinois Division, "Our employees were aware that numerous pressures in the market, including nuclear power plants coming on line, new state clean air laws, etc., would impact our business in 1986. With coal selling at a lower price than in previous years, improvements in productivity and efficiency made 1986 a successful year."

The biggest increases in productivity were achieved at River King No. 6, Mine No. 10, Baldwin and Power Mines, with 22, 17, 10 and 9 percent improvements, respectively.

"Baldwin set a new monthly production record in January by mining an average of 10,043 saleable tons per day," says Bennett. "Our Marissa Mine also had a strong year, and set a new daily production record of 8,532 clean tons on December 10." Marissa Mine is twice as productive as the industry's average underground mine and improved its productivity by 4 percent in 1986.

"We brought our River King No. 6 Mine, near Marissa, Ill., back into operation in January to replace River King No. 3, which was closed when its coal reserves near New Athens, Ill., were depleted," says Bennett. "We also were able to extend operations at our Power Mine, located near Montrose, Mo., for another year. This surface mine, which is nearing depletion, has been producing steam coal since 1951 and is Peabody's second oldest operating mine."

Another improvement made in 1986 included the construction of a new \$2 million fine coal circuit at



the Randolph Preparation Plant, near New Athens, Ill. According to Bennett, the new circuit will improve the heat content of coal significantly increasing the Illinois Basin coal's value on the market.

Three new long-term agreements were signed in 1986 for steam coal from the Illinois Division. A five-year contract with Illinois Power calls for an additional 1 million tons of coal, bringing average annual shipments to the customer up to more than 3 million tons. Another agreement was with Mississippi Power to provide 2.9 million tons of coal through 1991.

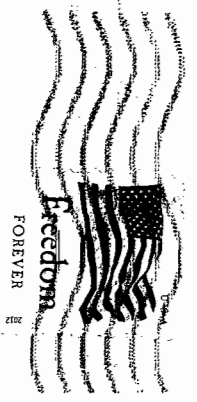
And, Peabody's existing contract with Associated Electric was replaced by a new agreement which calls for delivery of approximately 2 million tons of steam coal annually through 1990.

"Our strong productivity improvements have allowed us to effectively compete in the market," says Bennett. "But there is room for improvement, and employees in the Illinois Division have new record-breaking goals to reach in 1987. Illinois Division employees have shown that they are determined to keep Peabody competitive."

In the photo above, Dave Smith operates a continuous mining machine at the Illinois Division's Marissa Mine. In 1986, Marissa continued its high productivity pace with a 4 percent improvement over 1985. On December 10, Marissa Mine set a new daily production record of 8,532 clean tons.

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SAINT LOUIS MO 631
15 JAN 2013 PM 2 L



The Honorable Matty A. Swartz - State

REG; Case # 12-51502

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St. Louis, MO 63102

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