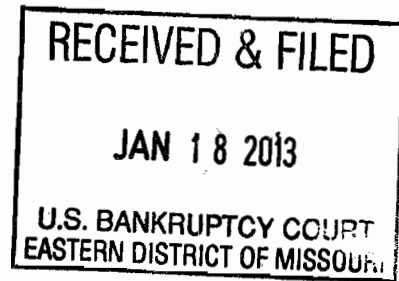


January 16, 2013



The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Re: Case No. 12-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton U. s. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO. 63102

To the Bankruptcy Judge:

My name is Edmond Spurlock, I am an 85 year old retired coal miner. I retired at the age of 62 after 42 years of U.M.W.A. underground mine employment.

I began my employment in the mines when the conditions were so poor that we had to crawl and our only equipment was a pick and shovel. The work was really hard and back breaking not to mention the dangerous conditions'. It was not uncommon for a co-worker to get crushed by a cave-in right next to you. We continued on even under these conditions because of the promise that we were making a better living and future for our families and now we are being threatened with that future being taken away. At my age there is no way that I could work anywhere to make enough money to pay for healthcare if these benefits are withdrawn and today's cost of healthcare starts at \$500.00+ per month. I just want to say that as a United Mine Worker from the state of Kentucky, if this withdrawal of our benefits takes place it could prove to be devastating to the nations economy because if one Business is allowed to do this then what will keep others from following suit.

If the coal companies needs to make cuts they shouldn't be messing with the retiree's benefits it's too late for the retiree's to make other arrangements for income or healthcare supplements, they should be looking at ways to cut the benefits of the current employees which would allow them the opportunity to plan for their futures by investing or putting aside money in a 401k or other types of savings plans like other companies.

Sincerely,

Edmond Spurlock
Concerned retired Miner



Mr. Edmond Spurlock
PO Box 201
Rockport Ky 42369-0201

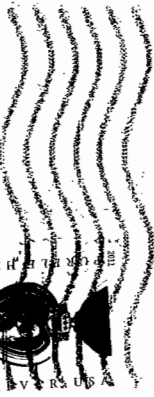
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