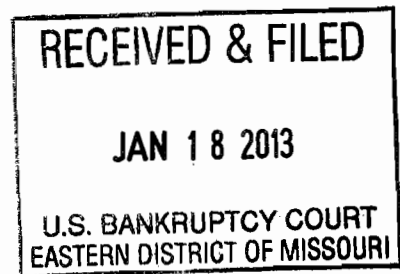


January 17, 2013



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

Your Honor,

I am a 62 year old retired coal miner who worked for Peabody Coal Co. for twenty (20) plus years. I worked underground, did 4 week rotating shift work, told when to take vacation besides being a very hard and dangerous job. Our blood, sweat tears and many sacrifices were made to earn our benefits and help make Peabody Coal the multi-billion dollar company that they are today. Many times I didn't even see my family with the shift work. Those choices were made based on the promises that were made to our family for our future.

The mine I worked at closed when I was 50 years old. I had to find a new career at that stage of my life and again decisions were made based on the fact that I had lifetime healthcare for my wife and myself.

In 2011, the contract was signed by both parties for those same benefits which have been in affect for the past 60 years.

I already know I have black lung scar tissue from working in the mine. I am turning 63 in March with unknown health issues that may occur. My wife is only 58 and has many health issues. She has a condition where her bones are dying in her joints and both knees need to be replaced. She has already had 3 bones removed from her wrist. This condition can affect her hips and shoulders as well. She has been diagnosed with COPD as well. We would be wiped out from any one of these conditions that we do know about.

We are at a point in our life where new careers and different benefits can not be established. Choices and decisions in our life were based on their promises of benefits that we have earned. You can't just change the rules at the end of our game.

I have never worked a day of my life for Patriot Coal. That is a spin off company that was set up to fail and dump their obligations to thousands of retirees. I worked for Peabody Coal, a multi-billion dollar company that made these promises to me and my family. Their further profit being more important than their obligations to people who have already worked their whole lives earning these benefits.

This is just our story, though sad, but true, there are thousands more just like us if not in worse shape.

What Peabody is trying to do is morally, ethically and humanely wrong. To think that your benefits that you have already earned can be taken away by a very successful and thriving company is unbelievable. This isn't a company that is going out of business like some very unfortunate companies have, this is Peabody Coal Co., still going strong and wanting to be even stronger and richer at our expense. Haven't we paid enough?

Thanking you in advance for you time in reading this letter.

Respectfully,

Dale Chinn
Debra A. Chinn

Dale & Debra Chinn
500 S. Charles St.
Belleville, IL 62220
UMWA Local 2412
Marissa, IL

Dale + Debra Chinn
5005. Charles St.
Belleville MO 62220
RECEIVED + FILED

2013 JAN 18 AM 11:14

CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MF

Re: Honorable Kathy A. Sworath - States
Case No. 13-51502
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102
13 JAN 2013 PM 5:1



63102112533

