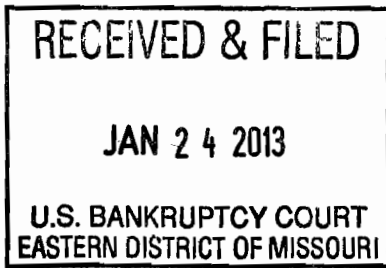


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January 21, 2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Summatt-Stein  
Re: Case No. 12-51502  
Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse  
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor  
St. Louis, Mo. 63102

I am a retired coal miner, after 35.5 years, working for Southwestern Illinois coal corp, and Arch Mineral coal Corp. Arch bought Southwestern in 1982. Arch still operates coal mines in Southwestern Illinois to this day, under the guise of other names, and non-union.

Many contracts were negotiated and agreed to during this long time span. Thousands of union coal miners lived up to those agreements by giving their blood, sweat, tears, life, and talents to this industry to be profitable. And they were profitable, and still are. Now Arch and Peabody are manipulating and scheming to show otherwise. One promise that Arch and Peabody made to the union miners is health care coverage for life, if we served a designated amount of time, and were old

Enough to receive these benefits. The Coal Companies can find a way to pay their executives millions of dollars in bonuses. The union people helped Arch and Peabody to make a whopping amount of money. Now the coal companies do not want to live up to their legal promises, and want to renege.

If we loose what is rightfully ours, it will be devastating to thousands of families. Our State Government and our Federal Government is already in financial doldrums. We shouldn't unload more financial burdens on them through unethical practices.

Very truly yours,

Vernon M. Heck

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

*The Honorable Kathy A. Swrath - States*  
*Re: Case No. 12-51502*  
*Thomas F. Capleton U.S. Courthouse*  
*111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor*  
*St. Louis, Mo. 63102*

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