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JAN 24 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Bruce AITKEN
10949 State Route 4
Sparta Illinois 62286

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States
Re case No 12-51502
Thomas F Eagle Ton U.S. Courthouse
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor
ST Louis, MO. 63102

To The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt State

I am currently employed at Patriot Coal Highland Mine at Waverly Ky with 30 1/4 year pension credit. When Peabody Coal was growing in 1974 I was hired at Peabody Coal Baldwin Mine 8-1-74 as an underground employee. I worked there 20 years working mostly at the face area on dusty jobs. The mine closed Dec 93. I had 20 year pension credit. On 8-11-2003 I was recalled from Peabody's panel to Peabody's Highland #9 Mine at Waverly Ky as an underground employee again working at the face area in dusty conditions. At both locations I agreed to work for, wages, benefits, and Health Care which I planned on for retirement. Peabody agreed to contracts and memorandum of understanding (MOU) agreements at Baldwin and Highland #9 Mines.

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The actions we take are not what we desire. Fairness at Peabody, Patriot and Arch for our Retirees, families, widows, dependants benefits, health care, pensions and wages are what we earned and were promised. These are desired! People have the right to defend their family, property, health care, wages and pensions from cradle to the grave.

It was not fair or just for Peabody, Patriot and Arch board of directors to spin off companies to claim bankruptcy and shed their self of health care and benefits to their employees, retiree, widows and dependants. The effects of these actions by Peabody, Patriot and Arch board of directors will be immediate and another blow to working families who received and secured their living and benefits from mining coal for these conspiring companies. Peabody board of directors can spin off a profitable company as easily as it was spun off, (Patriot Stock Pct for Peabody Btu). I still hold the same employee number when I started at Baldwin mine #8-1-74 till the present at Patriot Highland #9 Mine waverly Ky. Peabody and Patriot share office space in St Louis mo. where my payroll checks have been issued all these years. Our LMPCP meetings have promoted Union, Company harmony, Take Stock in your Company which we did. Local Patriot Company management did not create this problems

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PCX Stock was still being encouraged TO mid June 2012. Peabody and Patriot Board of directors should be held accountable for promised Health care and benefits ~~as~~ promised. Peabody and Patriot Board of directors made millions of dollars on spin off stock. PCX Stock should be an ongoing asset not written off as a loss or bankruptcy liability. ☹

We need your assistance re Patriots Act 31.2007 Spin off. To end with honorable, just, and positive results. We deserve what we earned and was promised. My Grandfathers, Dad, Uncle mined coal as have I. Grandpa always said if it looks like a skunk, walks like a skunk, SMELLS like a skunk it's probably a skunk. What the board of Directors of these companies have tried to do to workers who mined coal for them stinks.

God bless Coal and The People who Mine IT!
God bless you regarding your decisions to ensure Fairness at Patriot with positive results.

Respectfully Yours Local
Bruce Aitken UMW 1793 Member
Since Aug 1974

Please help us achieve an Honorable solution
This is our family and you never give up on family
Knowing what to do comes from the heart!

Bruce A. Tken
10949 State Route
Sparta, Illinois
63286 3023

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EASTERN DISTRICT
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