Case 12-51502 Doc 2835 Filed 02/11/13 Entered 02/14/13 13:48:56 Main Document Pg 1 of 2

February 7, 2013

**RECEIVED & FILED** 

FEB 1 1 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States Thomas F. Eagleton – U.S. Courthouse 111 South  $10^{th}$  Street  $4^{th}$  Floor St. Louis, MO 63102 Ref. Case # 12-515-02 Dear Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States,

I am writing to you because my husband, Kirby D. McKee is a retired miner and our lives are being affected by the recent bankruptcy of Patriot Coal.

The insurance has been a Godsend to us. I have an incurable disease of the nervous system called Neurofibromatosis. It is also called, "The Elephant Man Disease". Although I have a mild case of the disease, I am UNABLE to get health insurance. I have small tumors and have had some removed, but I have no other health issues from the disease. Thank God for the insurance that Kirby earned by working all those years and now that insurance is possibly being taken away. If you allow this to happen, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET ANY HEALTH INSURANCE.

Also, about three years ago, Kirby went in for a procedure of having a scope put down his throat, thinking he had a problem with his esophagus. It was determined that a virus had attacked his heart, leaving only 20% of his heart working. We also found out that he has a leak in the aorta valve. We are looking at a future surgery to repair this. If you allow the insurance to be taken away, we will not only not be able to afford the surgery, but he too will NOT BE ABLE TO GET INSURANCE. I know this to be fact because it happened to my father.

Kirby is also on prescriptions for high blood pressure and potassium. These are things that HE MUST HAVE, but we will be unable to afford, if the insurance is taken away. We are not alone in this either. Please take the time to put yourself in our situations.

These are things that you should know about because; you are dealing with the lives of many people. People who have worked all their lives for the benefits they earned. These are the benefits that were promised to us, and we depend on these to live and exist.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW Patriot Coal to take away all that Kirby and countless other miners worked for. It is all we have and we are counting on you to defend us. PLEASE DO NOT LET US DOWN.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and PLEASE consider what I have written to you. I need the insurance as does my husband and countless other miners and we are counting on you and praying that you will not let us down.

Sincerely, war K. Mckee

Susan K. McKee

