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February 14, 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

Dear Judge Surratt-States,

I am writing to let you know what Patriot Coals' proposed elimination of insurance coverage and pension benefits for their retired miners will mean to me and my family.

In 2005, I retired from Arch Coal because of renal failure. In 2010, after many months on dialysis, I was lucky enough to receive a kidney transplant. In order to keep my body from rejecting the kidney, I must take many medications every day. As you can imagine, for a person of limited means, the cost of my medicines is quite expensive.

When I worked at Arch, I did everything asked of me in order to keep the company viable and keep coal moving. Many nights I risked life and limb driving a 300 ton rock truck on muddy, narrow roads.

I hope you will carefully consider why Arch Coal decided to transfer their retired miners to Patriot, a small company they knew would not be able to cover their contractual obligations to the Arch Coal retires. The purpose of this **shell game** is a blatant attempt by Arch and Peabody Coal Companies to escape their contractual liabilities owed to retirees.

In the interest of fairness, please do not permit this corporate shell game to succeed.

Sincerely,

William E Hall

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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

