April 18, 2013

Wanda M. Warren 987 Oakwood Dr. Hartford, KY 42347

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt - States Re: Case # 12 -51502 Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Court House 111 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St., 4<sup>th</sup> floor St. Louis, MO 63102

## **RECEIVED & FILED**

APR 2 2 2013

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Re: Patriot Coal Co. Bankruptcy

Your Honor:

I am writing this letter with the hope that it will give you a better understanding of the consequences of letting Patriot Coal and Peabody Coal go back on their contractual promises to provide pensions and health care coverage to United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) retirees. In our case it would not be just a hardship, but a catastrophe. There is no way we could pay our medical bills.

My husband, James, and I both worked in the coal mines and we share some of the same illnesses, for which we take maintenance medications. We both have arthritis, high blood pressure and are diabetic. I also suffer from chronic kidney disease stage 3, chronic back pain (two back surgeries) and atrial fibrillation. James also suffers from gout and neuropathy.

Our prescription medication costs over \$15,800.00 a year, which means we would have to stop taking most of them. Also, I have been hospitalized many times. In 2009 alone my hospital bills were over \$365,000.00. There is absolutely no way we could continue to receive health care as we have in the past.

Not only Jim and I, but thousands of other miners would be similarly affected. I hope you will take this into consideration as you deal with this bankruptcy case and make your ruling.

Respectfully,

Wanda M. Warren

