

To the Honorable Shelley C. Chapman:

My name is Roy Lee Smith. I have worked in the coal mines for thirty-two (32) years. My wife, Gwen, and I have raised two beautiful daughters. We paid a lot of money to educate them. The oldest is a nurse, she's 32, the youngest is 28, she is an elementary school teacher. We have four (4) grandchildren.

My wife and I have worked all our lives to supply needs for this family. My wife is 64 (sixty-four) and I am 60 (sixty).

I retired May 2008. I received my disability in four months. My hips down to my feet are shot. I have a pretty rough time getting around but I never quit. I keep going. Sometimes if I stop for periods of time, I get really stiff and can't move around much. It's really painful.

I've crawled for 7 years in low coal, 48-60 inches and I never complained. I have worked wet and sloppy conditions and I never complained. All mines I've worked for were Peabody's contract mines.

I've really looked forward to retiring. I saved very little. The only thing I ever done is cut coal in a working mining coal face, loading large amounts of coal to keep Peabody happy and to have a paycheck.

Now with this bankruptcy, our livelihood is endangered. If our health care, pension, and pharmacy plan is lost it will cause hardship on all the retirees, all active miners, and others who work in all places everywhere in America. If this case is won by Peabody, Arch, and Patriot, other companies will follow: Wal-Mart, McDonald's, etc.

Our country is already a mess and it's hard to get people to listen. I hope you will read this letter. I'm just another one on a long list who is concerned, not only for me but others as well.

Thanks for your time,



Roy Lee Smith

To the Honorable Shelby D. Chapman

My name is Roy Lee Smith. I have worked in the coal mines for thirty-two (32) years. My wife, Gwendolyn, and I have raised two beautiful daughters. We paid a lot of money to educate them. The oldest is a nurse and the youngest is a 3rd grade teacher. We have four (4) grandchildren.

My wife and I have worked all our lives to supply needs for this family. My wife is 64 (sixty-four) and I am 60 (sixty).

I received my disability in four months. My wife and I have a right time to live. I have a good doctor. I stop for periods of time, I get really still and can't move around much. It's really painful.

I've worked for 7 years in low coal 48-60 inches and I never complained. I have worked wet and sticky conditions and I never complained. All mines I've worked were Peabody's contract mines.

I've really looked forward to retiring. I saved very little. The only thing I even done is to work in a working mine cost their losing large amounts of coal to keep Peabody happy and to have a paycheck.

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Thanks for your time


Roy Lee Smith



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OCT 12 2012

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT

