TO: The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman

7 October 2012

**One Bowling Green** 

Courtroom 621

New York, New York 10004-1408

Your Honor, my name is Lawrence L Bedwell "Larry". I am a retiree of Peabody Coal Company with 26 years of service. I retired in 2000 under the provisions of the 1974 contract. I worked all of my 26 years for Peabody, under a contract signed by Peabody. The contract promised health benefits for life for those retiring under the 1974 contract provisions and as well to their spouses.

I never in all my mining career ever worked for Patriot Coal Company.

I am 71 years old and have coronary artery disease. In 1996 I had a triple bypass, and in 2010 a stent. I have been on several medications since the 1996 surgery. I am doing well so far, but if we were to lose our health benefits it would be devastating to both our physical health and our financial well being.

The company I retired from, Peabody Coal Co, Is still in business and quite healthy financially. I think it would be a grave injustice to those past employees and their spouses to allow Peabody, through paperwork shuffles and legal proceedings to renege on a promise that was accepted in good faith by those employees and agreed to by Peabody Coal Co.

We thank you sincerely for your kind attention to our concerns. Larry B edwell

8092 E Monroe St

Dugger, Indiana 47848

(812) 648-2757

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