January 21, 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

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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

Dear Judge Surratt-States:

My name is Carolyn Foster and my husband, Charles, is a retired miner from Peabody Coal Company. He worked 34 ½ years for Peabody. We are very concerned with what Peabody and Patriot are attempting to do the men who made the company wealthy. Many of the men worked many hours and in difficult conditions to mine coal for this Company. As a result, a lot of the men contracted black lung which took away the ability to enjoy life and even took some of their lives. These men and women went to work and did their jobs and now the Company wants to take away their promises and benefits these men and women earned and deserve.

Our life will be turned upside down if they are allowed to take our insurance and pension. In 2012 alone, I was diagnosed with lung cancer (I am not a smoker), had to have throat surgery, and fell and fractured my arm. Fortunately, I did not have to have chemo or radiation, but you see how high medical bills have been this past year. I still have to have CT Scans every 6 months to make sure the cancer has not come back. My husband is also a heart patient and has to follow up on this on a regular basis. We consider the insurance to be a blessing and we are thankful they have provided this for us. We feel they should not be allowed to take this away from the employees that gave so much to them.

We also think they should not be allowed to take away their pensions. The men and women who are retired worked to earn this. The men and women who are working now are doing this to have their pension so they can retire one day. This does not seem fair to us. Many of the miners, widowers and widows will not be able to pay their bills let alone put food on their tables and purchase the needed medications. It will be difficult for us also.

We were always taught that a promise was a promise. Peabody and Patriot should not be allowed to break their promise to the men and women who work for them now and those who worked for them in past years.

Thank you for your consideration of my letter.

Sincerely,

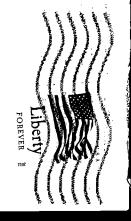
of a Carolyn doote **Charles and Carolyn Foster**

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CLERK. US BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT ST. LOUIS. MISSOURI - MR

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