



To
THE HONORABLE KATHY A GURRATT-STATES

My name is Thomas R. Lester, a retired coal miner with a work record of 34 and one half years in the coal mining industry. I am 69 years old and began my career with Amherst Coal Company. Amherst Coal Company sold the company to Diamond Shamrock Corporation. Diamond Shamrock Corporation sold to Arch Mineral Corporation. Under Arch Mineral the following Coal Companies were formed, ARCH OF West Virginia, Magnum Coal and Apogee Coal for whom I worked with Apogee being the last Company formed that I worked for. Each Company negotiated contracts with the UMWA to abide by the contract agreements to provide their employees with retirement pensions and Health Care coverage. I kept my part of the agreement by working faithfully for these companies helping to make them profitable and successful. In return I received years counted toward my retirement and Health benefits according to the contracts negotiated with our union the UMWA.

Now that I am older and retired we are being told that we are now under Patriot Coal Company who is owned by Peabody Coal Company. Now they have filed Bankruptcy asking to be relieved of the agreements made with the UMWA to provide pension and Health Care Benefits for all employees and retirees. This will bring an undue hardship to the families who expected to receive these benefits as promised in signed agreements and Contracts I have had Open Heart Surgery consisting of 5 bypasses. I am also a Diabetic patient and have Periphial Artery Disease in my legs. I also suffer with High Blood Pressure. My prescriptions that I take daily are 9 prescribed medicines and 3 over the counter medicines. All are to be taken daily, some twice a day and some four times a day and some once daily. These are necessary for my daily health and well being. This would bring an extreme hardship on my family. Also my Pension is how I pay all my utilities and provide housing, transportation, and food for my wife and myself.. I fulfilled my obligations according to the agreement between the UMWA and these Coal Companies. We are only asking that these companies fulfill their obligations agreed to and signed with the UMWA which represented the working employees and retirees. We are asking that the agreement made in good Faith and Integrity be kept even as promised and agreed upon.

I thank you for your time, understanding and consideration of the effects of broken promises and broken contracts and broken signed agreements which will give undue burdens and hardships to families who worked to help make our great Nation Great.

Respectfully
Thomas R. Lester

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas R. Lester".

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

THOMAS LESTER
PO Box 46
DENVER WY 825650

THE HONORABLE KATHY A SURETT-JONES
RE: CASE No 12-51502
THOMAS F ENGLETON US COURTHOUSE
111 S. 10 ST 4TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS MO 63102

CHARLESTON WY 253
20 MAR 2013 PM 4 L



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