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April 2, 2013

The Honorable Kathy A. Surratt-States  
United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri  
Thomas F. Eagleton US Courthouse  
111 S. 10th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Re: In re Patriot Coal, Case No. 12-51502-659 (Jointly administered)

Dear Judge Surratt-States:

Dorsey & Whitney LLP represents U.S. Bank National Association in its capacity as indenture trustee (the "Trustee") for \$200 million principal amount of 3.25% Senior Notes due 2013 (the "Senior Notes").<sup>1</sup> We received the Debtors' letter to Your Honor, dated March 28, 2013, which seeks a conference concerning the Debtors' request to limit participation in the evidentiary hearing set to commence on April 29, 2013 on the Debtors' motion under Sections 1113 and 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Hearing"). U.S. Bank agrees with the statements set forth in the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors' letter to Your Honor, dated March 29, 2013, that the Debtors' reliance on *In re UAL Corp.*, 408 F.3d 847 (7th Cir. 2005), is inappropriate and inapplicable here.

As one of the largest creditors in this case, the Trustee believes it should be entitled to participate in the Hearing given the relief sought by the Debtors in allowing a substantial claim against the estates. The Trustee intends to participate in the Hearing without duplicating the actions of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors or the other parties. In addition, the Trustee does not intend to call any of its own witnesses and will limit any cross examination to very narrow issues. We are available to, and respectfully request the Court's permission to, participate in the conference requested by the Debtors concerning this matter at Your Honor's convenience.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Lopez Schnabel", written over a horizontal line.

Eric Lopez Schnabel

Copies (by email) to: Lloyd A. Palans, Esq.  
Brian C. Walsh, Esq.  
Leonora S. Long, Esq.

<sup>1</sup> We are in the process of finalizing an engagement with local counsel.



Bonnie L. Clair, Esq.  
Thomas M. Mayer, Esq.  
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Elliot Moskowitz, Esq.  
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