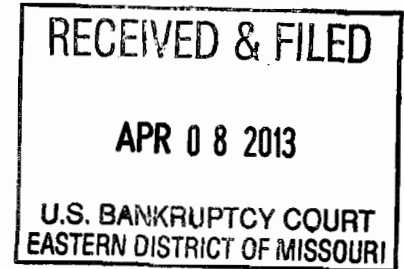


Sheila McPeek
146 W. 12th Street
Beaver Dam, KY 42320
(270) 274-4429 or (270) 775-5180



April 2, 2013

The Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States
Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse
111 S. 10th Street
4th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63102

RE: Case No. 12-51502

Dear Judge Surratt-States:

I am writing in support of both the UMWA and the company funded pensions and health coverage through Peabody Coal (now a supposed company by the name of Patriot Coal Company).

First let me state that my husband worked more than 50 years for only one company – Peabody Coal Company and he died December 20, 2000 having thought that I, as his surviving widow would be guaranteed his benefits at the time of his death.

When we as employes/retirees/dependents of such were first advised that Patriot Coal had purchased Peabody Coal Company, it came as somewhat of a shock especially since even after the first meeting we attended with the new Patriot benefit personnel, the phone number I continued to use to contact Patriot was the old phone number I had used for 20 some years to contact benefits in St. Louis for Peabody. To me, that is very telling.

I find it very hard to believe that our great Country would allow a company as large as Peabody Coal to simply discharge its pensioners' lifetime benefits by spinning off companies to absorb those pension and health benefits.

My husband started working for Peabody when he finished the 8th grade, worked for 2 years and joined the Marines, where he finished boot camp and his mother found him and returned him home. Then he continued his work with Peabody until he was drafted into the Army during World War II. As soon as he finished his duties to his Country, he returned once again to Peabody Coal Company where he continued to work until 1986, having built up an entire year of vacation, which he drew even after retiring and on which we continued to and I still continue today to pay whatever portion of my Social Security earnings are taxable to date.

I pray that you will not allow such an injustice to take place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila McPeek".

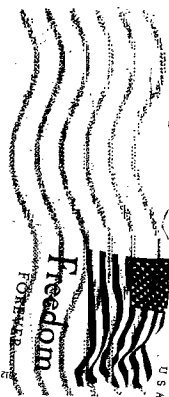
Sheila McPeek

Stella McPeck
128 W. 12th St.
Beaver Dam, KY 42320

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EASTERN DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MR

The Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States
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St. Louis, MO 63102

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