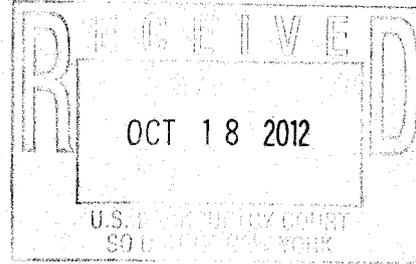


October 12, 2012



The Honorable Shelley C. Chapman  
One Bowling Green  
Courtroom 621  
New York, NY 10004-1408

Dear Honorable Judge Chapman:

I am writing because I have great concerns regarding the Chapter 11 bankruptcy filed by Patriot Coal. The decisions made in this case can affect the medical and pension benefits I labored for over 21 years of my life for Peabody Coal Company.

I retired from Peabody Coal Company in 2000. Over seven years later, Peabody chose to put all of its UMWA miners into a new spin-off coal company called Patriot Coal. I see this as a well-planned scam by Peabody that will impact retirees. It appears that Patriot Coal loaded up by taking on additional risk and higher liabilities and debt load in a planned effort to have Patriot fail. These actions were done and have added further injury to the retired and displaced UMWA members. Peabody Coal is the world's largest coal company - they state their greatest growth in the United States is in the Midwest regions. Peabody does not want these mines to be unionized.

I have a major concern in this because of numerous serious injuries received while working for Peabody Coal. The medical benefits and pension benefits are part of Peabody's promise to the dedicated employees as part of their years of service in helping Peabody achieve the financial status they now maintain. The spin-off to Patriot Coal is Peabody's attempt to abandon the obligations to those helping make the company the largest in the world!

I am requesting extra consideration in any judgments made in this bankruptcy request. These decisions will affect not only myself, but thousands of other retired miners and families. Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Terry L. Politsch.

Terry L. Politsch  
903 Oakridge Road  
New Athens, IL 62264  
618-540-9119