

October 8, 2012

Honorable Schelley C. Chapman
1 Bowling Green
Court Room 621
New York, NY 10004-1408

Dear Honorable Chapman:

I am writing you to ask that before consideration of terminating Peabody Coal Company's responsibility of healthcare and pension benefits to thousands of pensioners, please understand how this decision will affect many of us. I am 71 years old and worked for Peabody Coal Company, District 12, for 32 of those years. In 1997 while working as a roof bolter at Marissa Mine - underground, I herniated 3 of my lower back discs resulting in the need for 2 surgeries. I continued to have back pain until another surgery was done in 2010. There is not a day goes by that I live without unending pain. My wife continues to work full-time in order to help with daily living expenses and like most other Americans, live from paycheck to paycheck. There are many other Pensioners who are widowed and their sole income is their Peabody Coal pension check. These older folks are barely making ends meet and without pension and health benefits, surely will do without medicine, food or healthcare.

The coal miners that your decision will affect spent many hours working for Peabody Coal Company and risked their lives in doing so. Most of these miners did so because they wanted to ensure their families would be protected in the future with benefits that were promised to them. I beg your Honor to consider the vast number of older Americans that your decision will affect.

Respectfully,



Lindle Pickering
244 Debra Lane
Sparta, IL 62286
618-443-4117

