

EXHIBIT 79



Patriot Coal Services, LLC
500 Lee Street, East
Suite 900
Charleston, WV 25301
304.380.0200
www.patriotcoal.com

March 25, 2013

Art Traynor, Esquire
Staff Attorney
United Mine Workers of America
18354 Quantico Gateway Drive, Ste. 200
Triangle, VA 22172

Re: Open data requests to UMWA

Dear Art:

At our March 15, 2013 1113/1114 meeting at the UMWA headquarters in Triangle, Virginia, you asked for Patriot to provide a list of open requests to the UMWA and its advisors from Patriot and its advisors. Although Patriot provided a status report to the UMWA on March 15, 2013, below is a description of the items that we believe are outstanding:

1. Patriot has made multiple requests for the UMWA to provide its market analysis regarding potential coal sales. Although this has been discussed at several meetings, it is our understanding that the analysis is still being prepared. In the meantime, PricewaterhouseCoopers ("PwC") provided some coal prices on March 13, 2013. However there was no market analysis or any other information to ascertain how the UMWA arrived at the prices that were presented. Please advise when the UMWA will provide this information.
2. Patriot also asked the UMWA to provide support for the proposed cost savings that the UMWA envisions through its proposals. Notably, the UMWA has projected cost savings incurred by working 10-hour shifts and elimination of "daily" overtime in both its January 8, 2013 and February 5, 2013 counterproposals. Although the UMWA has provided its conclusions for these savings, no supporting calculations or assumptions that underlie these conclusions have been provided.
3. With respect to medical cost savings, there are several information requests and requests for clarification that remain open.
 - a. As an initial point, we would like to receive clarification as to the actual projected savings resulting from the UMWA's proposed changes to the union active healthcare program. In its February 5, 2013 proposal the UMWA states that the benefit modifications it proposed would achieve \$1.6 million in savings in 2013 and \$3.2 million in savings in years 2014-2016. In the savings calculation PwC provided to Blackstone on February 21, 2013, medical cost savings for active

employees were stated to be \$1.6 million in 2013 and \$3.1 million in years 2014-2016. Finally, in the March 14, 2013 spreadsheet showing active employee medical cost savings, PwC projects \$1.44 million in savings in 2013 and \$2.86 million in savings in subsequent years. Can the UMWA confirm what the final estimated cost savings are related to the proposals contained in the UMWA's February 5, 2013 proposal?

- b. In reviewing the analysis provided by PwC on March 14, 2013, it appears that the UMWA is using an estimated annual active medical cash cost of \$82 million. If that is accurate, please explain the basis behind this assumption as the actual UMWA active cash costs in 2012 were approximately \$42 million (this amount includes employees on layoff and S&A status).
 - c. With respect to UMWA active healthcare proposal #1 relating to the generic drug formulary, it appears from the proposal that the only proposed benefit modification is that non-preferred brand co-pays will increase by \$10. More importantly, it does not appear that the proposal and projected savings contemplate any changes to the UMWA current formulary. Please confirm whether this is accurate.
 - d. Please confirm whether the proposed savings attributable to the mandatory mail order program result from any factors other than the imposition of a \$5 co-payment for mail order re-fills. If there are other factors that resulted in the estimated savings, please explain in detail how these factors support your savings projections.
 - e. In arriving at the estimated savings for application of the UMWA Funds durable medical equipment (DME) network to the active population, please indicate the estimate used for Patriot's existing network discount. Also, please confirm the Funds current DME discount rate. In addition, please confirm the estimate used for the current cash spend on DME for this population. Finally, please confirm whether the UMWA Funds has approval to offer its network program to Patriot, and what steps would need to be taken to implement this change.
 - f. In arriving at estimated savings associated with the implementation of a spousal coverage requirement, PwC referenced its use of the "Touchstone" survey. We are still awaiting the production of this survey. In addition, in reviewing the calculations prepared by PwC it appears that PwC modified Mercer's proposed savings due to a "mathematical error" and then proceeded to perform calculations that resulted in savings that are inflated by more than \$1 million dollars. In order to accurately assess the UMWA's proposed savings associated with this aspect of the proposal, we are requesting that PwC provide a complete and detailed breakdown of its analysis of what the proposed baseline savings are from this proposal as well as a final estimated net savings based on the requirement that employee premiums be reimbursed.
4. The UMWA has suggested that an additional _____ in savings can be obtained through SG&A concessions. However, the UMWA has not provided any support to identify the nature of these purported savings.

5. On February 19, 2013, Patriot asked PwC to provide a response to Mercer's calculation of the UMWA's bankruptcy claim using PwC's underlying assumptions. Although Patriot received a response on March 20, 2013 that PwC had ascertained a claim value of _____, presumably based on information provided by Mercer, no supporting calculations or other support were provided.
6. On February 28, 2013, Patriot asked the UMWA to provide copies of all collective bargaining agreements, including agreements with non-bituminous coal operators, that were entered by the UMWA (a) during the effective period of the 2007 NBCWA, including any agreement with Murray Energy Corporation and its subsidiaries and affiliates, and (2) during the effective period of the 2011 NBCWA that were executed subsequent to the effective date of the 2011 NBCWA. To date, we have not received a response to this request.
7. On March 1, 2013, Patriot requested documentation relevant to Peabody's assumption of responsibility for the benefits of retirees under the NBCWA Individual Employer Plan Liabilities Assumption Agreement dated October 22, 2007, including but not limited to all such documents pertaining to the Acknowledgement and Assent dated August 14, 2007. To date, we have not received a response to this request.
8. At the March 15, 2013 meeting, Patriot requested clarification about outside services that PwC believes are not being utilized by the Company.

Please advise when responsive information necessary to complete these requests will be forthcoming. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please call me at 304-340-1716. We appreciate your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,



Eric R. Waller
Senior Counsel