

U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Administrative Law Judges  
800 K Street, NW, Suite 400-N  
Washington, DC 20001-8002



(202) 693-7300  
(202) 693-7365 (FAX)

JAN 17 2008

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall II  
301 Prince Street  
Beckley, WV 25801

Re: Emma J. Charles  
Case No. 2006-BLA-5920

Dear Congressman Rahall:

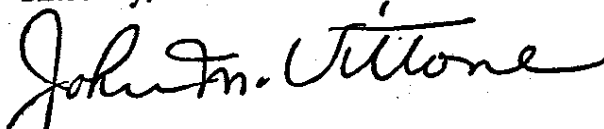
This is in response to your letter dated December 13, 2007, that was forwarded to this Office, concerning the above-referenced claim.

A Decision and Order Denying Benefits was issued on August 16, 2007, a copy of which is enclosed. On September 10, 2007, an appeal was filed with the Benefits Review Board. To inquire about the status of the appeal, I am forwarding your inquiry to the Board at the address listed below:

Benefits Review Board  
P.O. Box 37601  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7601  
(202) 693-6300

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
John M. Vittone  
Chief Judge

JMV/at

2006-BLA-5920 D+0 8/14/07

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR      Employment Standards Administration  
Office of Workers' Compensation  
Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation  
500 Quarrier Street, Suite 110  
Charleston, WV 25301



REPT OF LABOR  
LAW JUDGES  
DEC 27 A 11: 22

Phone: (304) 347-7100 or 1-800-347-3749  
FAX: (304) 347-7115

*Andrea*

MINER: Glen L Charles  
CLAIMANT: Emma J Charles  
CLAIM NO.: *EX 6*

The Honorable Nick J Rahall II  
House of Representatives  
301 Prince Street  
Beckley WV 25801

Dear Congressman Rahall:

This is in response to your inquiry dated December 13, 2007, regarding the Federal Black Lung claim of Emma J Charles, Claim Number - *EX 6*

As this office currently does not have jurisdiction for Mrs. Charles's claim, we are forwarding your inquiry to the following office:

✓ Office of Administrative Law Judges  
U.S. Department of Labor  
800 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-8002

You should expect a response from that office shortly.

We appreciate your interest in Mrs. Charles's claim for Black Lung benefits. If we may assist you further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

*Richard M Hanna*  
RICHARD M HANNA  
District Director

RMH/ssm

NICK J. RAHALL II  
3RD DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

Email: [nrahall@mail.house.gov](mailto:nrahall@mail.house.gov)  
Internet: <http://www.house.gov/rahall>

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4803

December 13, 2007

Mr. Richard M. Hanna, Director  
U. S. Department of Labor  
Charleston Federal Center  
500 Quarrier Street, Suite 110  
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Mr. Hanna:

I am writing to you on behalf of Ms. Emma Charles, *E.C.*, regarding her ongoing efforts to receive widow's black lung benefits.

Since this matter is under your jurisdiction, I am referring it to you for your full consideration. Once you have reviewed the information, please contact me at the Beckley office at 301 Prince Street, Beckley, WV 25801.

Please feel free to call upon me anytime that I can be of assistance.

With warm regard, I am

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II  
Member of Congress

NJR/kam

5/25

2307 RAYBURN BUILDING, WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4803  
(202) 225-3462

301 PRINCE ST., BECKLEY, WV 25801-4888  
(304) 252-5000

845 FIFTH AVE., ROOM 152  
HUNTINGTON, WV 25701-2088  
(304) 522-NICK

601 FEDERAL ST., ROOM 1005  
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701-3033  
(304) 325-6222

220 DINGESS ST.  
LOGAN, WV 25601  
(304) 752-4834

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DEC 17 2007

USDOL, Charleston, WV

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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NOV. 5, 07

Received NOV 26 2007  
Beckley District Office

GDC

Attention!

Mr Rep Nick Rahall

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DEC 17 2007

USDOL, Charleston, WV

My name is Emma Charles  
widow of Don Charles as of Aug 31st 2005 Coal miner  
for 42 yrs. (underground)

I have write to everyone Byrd, Manchin  
& you before trying to get help. My husband had  
Black lung & was drawing a monthly check & when he  
passed away they stop pischek which was mine too,

I have been trying to get it for the passed two  
yrs going on three & dont know what to do. no one  
seems to care.

I have the understanding that you are  
trying to get the Legislature to Pass a bill that  
when ever a Coal miner pass away & had been drawing  
a monthly check the widow would autmatically draw a  
check. Please hurry up & get that bill Passed. They  
are a lot of widows out here depends on that  
Monthly check to live a decent living. you know  
yourself how expensive it is to try to live & pay all  
the bills, taxes & etc.



2

I don't want your pity. Just please  
read this letter yourself

I am 75 yrs old, don't drive, depend on  
someone to take me where ever I go. That cost too,  
I guess you would say go out get a job, suuueed  
if I was able.

When my husband was living we did not  
know my check would stop when he passed away.  
I would love to start receiving it again, I  
am intitle to it. Glen paid 10¢ out of every  
dollar he worked

What is something I don't understand  
when Slab Fork Co Company went  
Bankrupt & shut down. Glen retired &  
file for black lung & got it without  
any problem now when I truly need  
it they stop it.

Mr Rehall please read this letter  
& give some serious thought about this. I  
think the coal company is fighting me they  
hope I won't live long enough to start receive it  
again

RECEIVED

DEC 17 2007

USDOL, Charleston, WV



I thank  
Praying  
for you  
Emma Charles  
in need