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CONTACT: Mike Serpe 202-225-3452

Washington D.C. --- Fourth District Congressman Nick Rahall, (D-WV), has expressed his support and willingness to meet with the Tug Valley Citizens Committee, to discuss flood control and flood relief operations.

In a letter to Gerald Chafin, head of the Citizens Committee, Congressman Rahall said, "Effective and efficient flood prevention and relief will only come as a result of residents and public officials forming a unified effort."

Rahall also stated that he would be willing to meet at any time with the Committee, the Congressman expressed his hope that a meeting could be held before Congress goes back into session on Jan. 17.

Conressman Rahall , an outspoken critic of the federal flood relief operation stated, "The input that can be gained from a get together of all of us who experienced first-hand the delays and frustrations which were a result poor planning, can go a long way, to help victims of future floods."

"There is no reason in the world, why people from West Virginia, or any other State, have to go through the problems that occurred last spring," Rahall observed.

Congressman Rahall mentioned the progress that has taken place in the Congressional Investigation into the flood relief operation, which Rahall prompted. "I am in constant touch with the investigators, and am aware that they have just returned from another trip to West Virginia. I am confident Congressional hearings will be held some time soon, and am hopeful that field hearings can be held in the Tug Valley."

Rahall concluded, that he looks forward to his meeting with the Tug Valley Citizens Committee.