

News  
From \_\_\_\_\_

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 5, 1977

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WASHINGTON D.C. --- U.S. REPRESENTATIVE NICK RAHALL (D-4TH), HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS WILL BEGIN FINAL MARK-UP ON THE BILL H.R. 2, THE FEDERAL STRIP MINING LEGISLATION ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6.

H.R. 2, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE RECENTLY, IS SOMEWHAT MODIFIED FROM THE STRIP MINING BILL THAT WAS PASSED BY THE 94TH CONGRESS AND VETOED BY THEN PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD.

BACKERS OF THE LEGISLATION FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THE BILL WILL PROTECT THE NATION'S ENVIRONMENT, WHILE STILL PROVIDING THE COUNTRY WITH THE MUCH NEEDED ENERGY SOURCE, COAL.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, A MEMBER OF THE INTERIOR COMMITTEE, ACCOMPANIED OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON AN INSPECTION TOUR OF STRIP MINING SITES IN WEST VIRGINIA LAST MONTH.

"OUR TRIP WAS VERY BENEFICIAL," RAHALL SAID, "AND I BELIEVE THE MEMBERS NOW HAVE A MUCH BETTER PICTURE OF STRIP MINING AND THE RECLAMATION PROCEDURES IN OUR STATE."

"WEST VIRGINIA HAS A GOOD LAW," RAHALL WENT ON TO SAY, "BUT I AM WELL AWARE THAT MANY OTHER COAL-PRODUCING STATES HAVE WEAK REGULATIONS ON STRIPPING AND THEREFORE HAVE AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OVER COAL MINE OPERATORS IN WEST VIRGINIA."