

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
February 7, 1977

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Washington D.C. --- Fourth District Congressman Nick Rahall met today with Gov. Jay Rockefeller's State and Federal Relations staff, to discuss ways to coordinate efforts by state and federal officials to better serve the people of West Virginia.

At a morning session in the nation's capital attended by the entire West Virginia Congressional Delegation, Rahall pointed out the need for immediate assistance to those communities that have been without maximum water and sewer service for a number of weeks.

"In my District, there are many families that have no water at all," Rahall said. "In Lester, the volunteer Fire Department has had to haul water in by tanker."

Rahall explained that many towns throughout the State, have water and sewer systems that are over 50 years old. Due to the extreme cold, the obsolete facilities can not do the job.

"The pumping stations are out-dated, the pipes are old, and we must do what we can to help those who are suffering," the Raleigh County Democrat said.

Congressman Rahall pointed out that four towns in the Fourth District have already applied for federal assistance, but final determination on the help is still months off.

"I personally intend to stay in close contact with the federal agencies administering the programs," Rahall said. "And I have already learned that the Department of Housing and Urban Development will make a decision on a \$400,000 to the Town of Lester by Feb. 28."

The four towns that have applied for assistance are: Williamson, Glen Rogers, Keystone and Lester.