

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, WILL OFFER AN AMENDMENT THAT WOULD SPEED UTILITY PLANT CONVERSION TO COAL. RAHALL'S AMENDMENT WILL BE MADE TO HR 4985, THE ENERGY FAST TRACK LEGISLATION.

RAHALL EXPLAINED, "THE PURPOSE OF MY AMENDMENT IS TO EXPEDITE APPROVAL OF THOSE PROJECTS WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO GET UTILITY BOILERS OFF OIL OR GAS AND ONTO COAL OR COAL DERIVATIVES."

"THIS AMENDMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR OFTEN-EXPRESSED NATIONAL OBJECTIVE OF CONVERTING UTILITY BOILERS TO COAL AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE, THUS FREEING MORE OIL AND NATURAL GAS FOR OTHER MORE EFFICIENT USES," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT.

"WE HAVE THE POTENTIAL IN THIS COUNTRY OF SAVING 724,000 BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY, IF WE CAN FOLLOW THROUGH ON OUR CONVERSION EFFORTS," RAHALL SAID.

"HOWEVER, WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE INSTANCES IN WHICH CONVERSION TO COAL HAS BEEN THWARTED BY REGULATORY DELAYS," RAHALL STRESSED, "AND I BELIEVE MY AMENDMENT WILL REDUCE THE NUMBER OF THESE INSTANCES TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM."

HR 4985, WOULD CREATE AN ENERGY MOBILIZATION BOARD TO EXPEDITE FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL AGENCY DECISION MAKING ON KEY ENERGY PROJECTS.