News From

Nick Rahall WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 26, 1979 CONTACT: MIKE SERPE 202-225-3452

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESS-MAN NICK J. RAHALL, WILL OFFER THREE MAJOR AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 1980 ENERGY DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL WHICH IS BEING CON-SIDERED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TODAY.

RAHALL'S PROPOSALS INCLUDE:

- -AN AMENDMENT TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZATION FOR COAL MINING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FROM \$48 MILLION TO \$68 MILLION.
- -AN AMENDMENT TO INCREASE THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ALL COAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES BY 25%, WHICH TOTAL \$88.7 MILLION.

-AN AMENDMENT TO INCREASE THE FUNDING FOR TWO SOLVENT REFINED COAL (SRC) FACILITIES TO \$585 MILLION EACH.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED, "CONGRESS HAS BEEN CHALLENGED, AND WE MUST ACCEPT THIS CHALLENGE AND THE REALITY THAT WE MUST LED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OUT OF THE PRESENT ENERGY CRISIS."

RAHALL CONCEEDED, "MY AMENDMENTS WILL COST MONEY, BUT SHOULD WE BE PENNY-WISE-AND-POUND-FOOLISH AT A TIME WHEN MORE THAN EVER WE MUST PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE."

"WE HAVE ENOUGH COAL TO LAST THE NATION FOR ALMOST 400 YEARS," RAHALL POINTED OUT, " BUT WE MUST KNOW HOW TO USE IT IN THE MOST EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE WAYS, AND THROUGH MY AMENDMENTS, I BELIEVE THE RESOURCES WILL BE PROVIDED TO DO JUST THAT."

"OVER 10 YEARS AGO, CONGRESS WAS CHALLENGED TO PROVIDE THE FUNDS TO PUT A MAN ON THE MOON. TODAY WE ARE CHALLENGED TO MAKE THE UNITED STATES ENERGY INDEPENDENT. I AM SURE MY COLLEAGUES WILL JOIN ME IN THIS EFFORT."

THE D.O.E. LEGISLATION (HR 3000), AUTHORIZES \$8.5 BILLION FOR THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT IN FY 1980.