News From

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JUNE 8, 1979 CONTACT: MIKE SERPE 202-225-3452

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESS-MAN NICK J. RAHALL, HAS EXPRESSED HIS SUPPORT FOR A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE AND BOOST PRODUCTION OF SYNTHETIC FUELS IN THE UNITED STATES.

RAHALL POINTED OUT, "HR3903, WOULD DIRECT THE PRESIDENT TO ACHIEVE A NATIONAL PRODUCTION GOAL OF 500,000 BARRELS PER DAY OF CRUDE OIL EQUIVALENT OF SYNTHETIC FUELS."

"SYNTHETIC FUELS," THE CONGRESSMAN EXPLAINED, "MEANS FUELS
PRODUCED BY CONVERSION OF RENEWABLE AND NONRENEWABLE RESOURCES,
INCLUDING FUELS PRODUCED FROM COAL GASIFICATION AND COAL LIQUIFI-

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP,
STATED, "THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEASURE IS TO SET UP, THROUGH A JOINT
GOVERNMENT-INDUSTRY EFFORT, A SYNTHETIC FUEL INDUSTRY IN THE WAY
A SYNTHETIC RUBBER INDUSTRY WAS CREATED DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR."

RAHALL, IN REPEATED MEETINGS WITH MANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES IN

THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP, HAS URGED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THIS LEGISLATION. "I BELIEVE THIS BILL IS VITAL TO OUR EFFORTS TO BRING
ABOUT AN INCREASE IN COAL USE," RAHALL SAID.

THE LEGISLATION HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY THE HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE BY A VOTE OF 39 TO 1.

"I AM ALSO ENCOURAGED BY RECENT SOUNDINGS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE ON THIS MATTER," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED. "AS THE RESULT OF SOME RECENT CONTACTS, I BELIEVE THE PRESIDENT WILL ALSO SUPPORT THIS BILL, BECAUSE IT IS A STEP TO PROVIDE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE FOR THIS NATION AND TO PROTECT OUR NATIONAL SECURITY IN TIMES OF ENERGY EMERGENCIES."