

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL SAYS ABANDONED MINE PROGRAM AIDS W. VA.

Washington D.C. --- "The Rural Abandoned Mine Program (RAMP), working in cooperation with the State and the Office of Surface Mining, is moving forward to correct hazardous and environmentally damaging conditions that are a result of abandoned coal lands," states West Virginia's Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall.

Rahall points out that, "Seven reclamations have been completed, and two others are currently under construction--for a cost in excess of \$1.2 Million." 22 other sites are in the preliminarily planning and design stage. "Three of these sites are located in the 4th District," Rahall said, "and they are: Amherstadle in Logan County, Lean Taylor site in Wayne County, and the Jacobs Fork site in McDowell County," the Congressman pointed out.

The completed projects are:

1. Junior Mine Site	Barbour County	cost of: \$156,389
2. Mason Bennett Site	Barbour "	" \$9,608
3. Quinwood Mine Site	Greenbrier "	" \$16,450
4. Barnes & Gough Site	Marion "	" \$343,974
5. Bethany College	Brooke "	" \$264,574
6. Lilly Site	Raleigh "	" \$11,669
7. Cianfrocco-Kaufman	Monongalia "	" \$60,291

The sites currently under construction are:

1. Guseman Site	Monongalia "	estimate: \$86,156
2. Starvaggi Site	Brooke "	" \$256,540

"In communications with the Soil and Conservation Service which administers RAMP," Congressman Rahall said, "the landowners and landusers voluntarily agree to the reclamation and play a vital role in planning the work needed."

"This fact is important," Rahall went on to say, "because it assures that the final land use will be compatible with future plans."

The Rural Abandoned Mine Program was part of the 1977 Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. Congressman Rahall served on the committee which originally passed this measure, and was a member of the House-Senate Committee that formulated the final legislative package.