WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL CALLS FOR HALT TO U.S. HELP ON RUSSIAN PIPELINE

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESS-MAN NICK J. RAHALL, HAS EXPRESSED HIS STRONG OPPOSITION TO ANY PARTICIPATION BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GAS PIPELINE TO RUN FROM SIBERIA TO WEST GERMANY.

"I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THIS COUNTRY WOULD EVEN CONSIDER SUCH AN EFFORT," RAHALL STATED, "WHEN AMERICAN FINANCIAL AND TECHNO-LOGICAL RESOURCES SHOULD BE USED TO DEVELOP OUR OWN SOURCES OF ENERGY."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL IS A CO-SPONSOR OF THE RESOLUTION, H. CON.

RES. 159, WHICH EXPRESSES DISAPPROVAL OF ANY UNITED STATES OR

WESTERN EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 3,600 MILE

SOVIET NATURAL GAS PIPELINE.

"WE ARE TOLD," RAHALL OBSERVED, "THAT THIS PIPELINE WILL
HELP OUR WESTERN EUROPEAN ALLIES REDUCE THEIR DEPENDENCE ON MIDEAST OIL, BUT WHY SHOULD THE UNITED STATES HELP?"

"NONE OF OUR ALLIES HAVE OFFERED TO ASSIST US WITH THE DEVELOP-MENT OF OUR COAL RESERVES," RAHALL CHARGED, "I SEE NO NEED FOR OUR HELP, PARTICULARLY WHEN THE PIPELINE IS TO BE BUILT IN RUSSIA."

THE PROPOSED PIPELINE WOULD BE BUILT AT A COST OF \$15 MILLION. IT WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE ECONOMIC AND ENERGY
DEPENDENCE OF WESTERN EUROPE ON THE SOVIET UNION, AND WOULD UNDERMINE THE HISTORIC CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, AND SECURITY TIES BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE.

"IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS SOME
RESERVATIONS ABOUT THIS PROJECT," RAHALL SAID, "AND I HOPE HIS
RESERVATIONS BECOME STAUNCH OPPOSITION."