

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## RAHALL WANTS MEETING WITH REAGAN

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP, HAS REQUESTED A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE SYNTHETIC FUELS INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT, INITIATED BY RAHALL AND SIGNED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COAL GROUP, IT WAS STATED, "WE ARE CONCERNED WITH YOUR PLAN TO REDUCE, AND OR ELIMINATE, GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYNTHETIC FUELS INDUSTRY."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT, "WHEN THE 96TH CONGRESS OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH THE SYNTHETIC FUELS CORPORATION, MOMENTUM WAS BUILT TO MAKE THE U.S. ENERGY INDEPENDENT FROM FOREIGN PETROLEUM SOURCES."

"THIS MOMENTUM WILL BE LOST;" RAHALL STRESSED, "IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS ITS SUPPORT."

PRESIDENT REAGAN, IN HIS ECONOMIC MESSAGE TO THE NATION EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT PRIVATE INDUSTRY WOULD BUILD PLANTS TO MAKE LIQUID OR GAS FUELS FROM COAL. CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID HOWEVER, "WE QUESTION PRIVATE INDUSTRY'S ABILITY AND COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM ALREADY BEGUN."

"WISE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES, SUCH AS COAL, INTO USABLE SYNTHETIC FUELS CAN BE THE KEY TO AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY," RAHALL OBSERVED IN THE LETTER, "AND IF WE MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, THE UNITED STATES CAN BECOME THE SAUDIA ARABIA OF SYN-FUELS."

"SUCH A TASK SHOULD NOT BE INSURMOUNTABLE FOR A NATION THAT HAS PUT A MAN ON THE MOON," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL CONCLUDED.

RAHALL SAID HE FEELS PRESIDENT REAGAN WILL SET UP THE MEETING, BECAUSE, "HE HAS A WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS POLICY WITH VARIED PUBLIC LEADERS."

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