

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DECEMBER 9, 1981

CONTACT: MIKE SERPE  
202-225-3452

## RAHALL DISCUSSES ACID RAIN

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, HAS CALLED UPON THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT, TO APPROVE HIS BILL, HR 5055, WHICH WOULD SPEED UP A CURRENT 10 YEAR STUDY ON ACID RAIN. RAHALL WANTS THE STUDY COMPLETED IN 5 YEARS.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP, TOLD THE PANEL, "THERE PRESENTLY EXISTS NO CREDIBLE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT IMMEDIATE AND COSTLY CONTROLS ON SULFUR DIOXIDE EMISSIONS TO REDUCE ACID RAIN." RAHALL WENT ON TO POINT OUT, "ALL OF THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION WE HAVE ARGUES FOR A MORE VIGOROUS PROGRAM OF RESEARCH INTO THE MATTER."

"MY BILL," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED, "RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR THE TASK FORCE ON ACID RAIN TO IDENTIFY THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF ACID RAIN, BUT THEY DO NOT NEED TEN YEARS TO COMPLETE THE STUDY."

"A HAPHAZARD APPROACH TO REDUCING ACID RAIN WILL ONLY SERVE TO FURTHER ESTIMATES WHICH SHOW THAT OVER A 10 YEAR PERIOD, CONSUMERS WILL HAVE TO PAY \$3.2 BILLION MORE FOR ENERGY," RAHALL STRESSED.

"FURTHERMORE, THOUSANDS OF MINE WORKERS CURRENTLY OUT OF WORK WOULD HAVE NO HOPE OF RETURNING TO THE COAL MINES, AND THOUSANDS MORE WOULD LOSE THEIR JOBS," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID.

"IT IS MY HOPE THAT WE CAN OBTAIN INFORMATION ON ACID RAIN IN A SPEEDY FASHION SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO ACHIEVE ENERGY SECURITY THROUGH THE USE OF DOMESTIC COAL IN AN ECONOMICAL AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER," RAHALL STATED. "FURTHER REGULATIONS, ON TOP OF CURRENT REGULATIONS WILL DO US NO GOOD WHATSOEVER, SINCE WE ARE NOT EVEN SURE OF THE IMPACTS OF CURRENT LAW," THE CONGRESSMAN SAID.