

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 21, 1980

CONTACT: MIKE SERPE
202-225-3452

WASHINGTON D.C. --- "COAL'S MESSAGE IS BEGINNING TO BE HEARD," SAID WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

"WITHIN THE LAST FEW DAYS," RAHALL POINTED OUT, "MAJOR NEWS-PAPERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAVE BEEN SINGING THE PRAISES OF COAL. I ASK, WHERE HAVE THEY BEEN?"

"AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE RESTS WITH COAL," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STRESSED, "AND THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS REALIZED THIS A LONG TIME AGO, ESPECIALLY COAL MINERS AND COAL PRODUCERS IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA, NOT TO MENTION WEST VIRGINIA NEWSPAPERS," RAHALL ADDED.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL REFERRED TO RECENT EDITORIALS CALLING FOR THE GREATER USE OF COAL IN THE WASHINGTON POST, THE NEW YORK TIMES, AND THE WASHINGTON STAR.

"I AM PLEASED THAT THE EFFORT FOR EXPANDED COAL USE IS GAINING THE SUPPORT OF FORMER ANTI-COAL GROUPS," RAHALL OBSERVED. "THESE THREE NEWSPAPERS HAVE NOT BEEN KNOWN FOR THEIR STRONG SUPPORT OF COAL IN THE PAST," RAHALL SAID, "AND THEIR MORE REALISTIC OUTLOOK OF THE ENERGY PICTURE IS INDEED ENCOURAGING."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL TOLD HIS COLLEAGUES, "THE TIME IS NOW TO MOVE WITH THE GREATER PRODUCTION AND USAGE OF COAL, AND THE COAL CONVERSION BILL IS ESSENTIAL TO THIS EFFORT."

"THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SHOULD NO LONGER HAVE TO PAY MORE FOR GASOLINE; THEY SHOULD NO LONGER HAVE TO PAY MORE TO HEAT THEIR HOMES; NOT ONE MORE MINER SHOULD BE PUT OUT OF WORK," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID.

"WE HAVE THE COAL. WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY. WHAT WE NEED NOW IS THE COMMITMENT," RAHALL CONCLUDED.

-30-