

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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WASHINGTON D.C. --- IN A STATEMENT BEFORE THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION'S PLATFORM COMMITTEE, WEST VIRGINIA CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, SAID, "1980 IS A TIME OF CHALLENGE FOR THE UNITED STATES IN REGARDS TO ENERGY, AND THE KEY TO A COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY POLICY IS...COAL."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL'S REMARKS CAME AT THE DAY-LONG HEARING, HELD TO FORMULATE THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S PLATFORM FOR 1980.

"I URGE THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO VOICE ITS SUPPORT FOR COAL CONVERSION, AND FOR GREATER COAL PRODUCTION AND COAL USAGE," RAHALL STRESSED.

"COAL WILL REDUCE OUR ADDICTION TO FOREIGN OIL, IT WILL HELP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION, IT WILL PUT UNEMPLOYED MINERS BACK TO WORK, AND IT WILL PROTECT OUR NATIONAL SECURITY," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED.

IN EXPLAINING THE BENEFITS OF COAL OVER IMPORTED OIL, CON. RAHALL POINTED OUT, "COAL COSTS LESS THAN HALF OF THE PRICE OF IMPORTED OIL. A TYPICAL AMERICAN UTILITY SPENDS ROUGHLY \$35 FOR A TON OF COAL DELIVERED, AND ANOTHER \$25 TO MEET EXISTING AIR AND WATER POLLUTION STANDARDS, FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$60. THE EQUIVALENT AMOUNT OF CRUDE OIL WOULD COST \$165."

"COAL IS THE MOST ABUNDANT OF OUR DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES," RAHALL ADDED, "WITH ONE-THIRD OF THE WORLD'S ENTIRE COAL SUPPLY BENEATH OUR OWN SOIL."

"AMERICA IS NOT ENERGY POOR," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL SAID, "IT IS ENERGY RICH, WITH COAL."

"WITH ALMOST 8,000 COAL MINERS OUT OF WORK IN WEST VIRGINIA ALONE, THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT BE SENDING NEARLY \$95 BILLION TO FOREIGN NATIONS FOR THEIR OIL," RAHALL STATED.

"WITH ALL THE PLUSES COAL HAS, ALL IT NEEDS NOW IS A STRONG, FIRM POLICY TO BACK IT UP," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL CONCLUDED.

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