

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: MIKE SERPE
202-225-3452

WASHINGTON D.C. --- "THE COAL INDUSTRY IS BEING CRUSHED BY REGULATORY OVER-KILL," SAID WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, ON THE FLOOR OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

RAHALL, IN A STATEMENT TO HIS COLLEAGUES SAID, "THE SEVEN LEADERS, WHO ATTENDED THE VENICE ECONOMIC SUMMIT HAVE CALLED FOR THE DOUBLING OF COAL PRODUCTION AND USE BY 1995. I SHOULD BE PLEASED BY THIS REMARK, BUT MY ENTHUSIASM IS CLOUDED BY THE REALITY OF THE MASSIVE REGULATORY MAZE THAT IS STIFLING THE COAL INDUSTRY."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT THAT, "THERE ARE AT LEAST 13 AGENCIES AND SUBDIVISIONS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHICH HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE PRODUCTION, TRANSPORTATION AND USE OF COAL."

"IN WEST VIRGINIA," RAHALL WENT ON TO SAY, "THERE ARE 14 SEPARATE AGENCIES AND SUBDIVISIONS WITH THE SAME RESPONSIBILITIES."

"IT IS THE OBSERVATION OF MANY IN THE COAL INDUSTRY," RAHALL STRESSED, "THAT SUCH PRACTICES ARE KILLING COAL AND ITS USE IN AMERICA."

"THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WITH A GREATER RELIANCE ON COAL, WILL HAVE TO COME INSURANCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY AND WORKER SAFETY," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED. "BUT LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT ARE TIGHTENED AND OVER-ABUNDANT WILL ONLY SERVE TO CUT OFF THIS NATION'S ONLY LINK TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE UNLESS CHANGES ARE MADE."

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL, CHAIRMAN OF THE 65 MEMBER CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP, HAS BEEN PUSHING HARD FOR SUPPORT OF GREATER COAL USE IN PREPARATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONSIDERATION OF THE COAL CONVERSION BILL.

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