WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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WASHINGTON D.C. --- "THERE ARE TOO MANY QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED, AND I WANT THOSE ANSWERS," CLAIMED WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, TODAY, IN CALLING FOR A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE PRESENCE OF POSSIBLE CANCER-CAUSING CHEMICALS IN THE HUNTINGTON DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.

RAHALL'S REQUEST COMES AS A RESULT OF RECENTLY PUBLISHED INFORMATION THAT SHOWS EIGHT CHEMICALS IN THE WATER SUPPLY SUS-PECTED OF CAUSING CANCER.

IN A LETTER TO REP. HENRY WAXMAN (D-CAL.), CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT, CONGRESSMAN RAHALL STATED, "MY MAJOR CONCERN IS THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE OVER 120,000 RESIDENTS IN THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON AND SURROUNDING AREAS, THAT CONSUME THIS WATER DAILY."

"IF THERE IS A PONTENTIAL HEALTH HAZARD, IT SHOULD BE DE-TECTED AND REMEDIED," RAHALL STRESSED.

ALTHOUGH SCIENTISTS CLAIM THAT THEY HAVE NOT YET DETERMINED THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF CONSUMING CHEMICALS IN LOW CONCENTRATION OVER A LIFETIME, CONGRESSMAN RAHALL CHARGED, "THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH."

"IF THERE IS A RISK, AS THERE SEEMS TO BE, THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE AWARE OF THOSE RISKS AND THE AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR WATER QUALITY SHOULD BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THOSE RISKS," RAHALL POINTED OUT.

"THE PRESENCE OF THESE CHEMICALS IN THE DRINKING WATER MAY NOT BE DEEMED SERIOUS BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY," RAHALL OBSERVED, "BUT AS LONG AS EVEN A SMALL CHANCE OF HARM EXISTS TO THE RESIDENTS WHO DRINK THE WATER DAILY, THEY DESERVE A FURTHER ANALYSIS."

"THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FACE TOO MANY HEALTH HAZARDS NOW, AND WHILE WE WILL NOT OVERCOME THEM ALL, ONE MORE SHOULD NOT BE TOLERATED,"