

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JANUARY 18, 1983

CONTACT: MIKE SERPE  
202-225-3452

## RAHALL PREPARES COAL GROUP FOR NEW CONGRESS

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP, HAS BEGUN TO PREPARE THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE 98TH CONGRESS.

ALREADY SCHEDULED IS A RECEPTION, RAHALL IS HOSTING, FOR THE NEW U.M.W.A. PRESIDENT RICHARD TRUMKA THAT WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 26.

"I HAVE ALSO BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE NEW SECRETARY OF ENERGY," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT, "REQUESTING THAT HE MEET WITH THE COAL GROUP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS HIS PLANS FOR THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES RELATING TO COAL."

IN SOLICITING NEWLY-ELECTED CONGRESSMEN FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE COAL GROUP, RAHALL SAID, "THE CONGRESSIONAL COAL GROUP IS A BI-PARTISAN ORGANIZATION OF REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING COAL A MORE DOMINANT FORCE IN AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE."

"THE PRIMARY THRUST OF COAL GROUP ACTIVITIES DEAL WITH THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON ISSUES FACING THE CONGRESS WHICH HAVE AN IMPACT ON COAL," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL OBSERVED. "DURING THE LAST CONGRESS," RAHALL WENT ON, "THE 66-MEMBER GROUP HELD A NUMBER OF SEMINARS ON ISSUES SUCH AS: ACID RAIN, COAL EXPORTS AND FOREIGN TAKE-OVERS OF DOMESTIC ENERGY FIRMS."

"UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE COAL FIELDS WILL NO DOUBT BE THE NUMBER 1 ISSUE IN 1983," RAHALL SAID, "AND AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, WE CAN'T GET STARTED SOON ENOUGH ON PUTTING PEOPLE BACK TO WORK, AND TO STABILIZE THE ECONOMY THROUGHOUT THE COALFIELDS OF AMERICA,"

ALSO MAJOR ISSUES FACING THE CONGRESS, THAT CONCERN COAL WILL BE: THE CLEAN AIR ACT, REHABILITATE THE NATION'S COAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE, AND TO CREATE AN OVERALL ENERGY POLICY TO MAKE COAL COMPETITIVE WITH OTHER COAL EXPORTING NATIONS.