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HOUSE COMMITTEE SETS SURFACE MINE TOUR

WASHINGTON D.C. --- WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT CON-GRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, ANNOUNCED THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE A ONE-DAY TOUR OF SURFACE MINING SITES IN WEST VIRGINIA AND SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 18.

"PLANS ARE BEING FINALIZED," RAHALL SAID, "BUT THE TOUR WILL BE A FOLLOW-UP TO A PREVIOUS SURFACE MINE INSPECTION TOUR THAT TOOK PLACE IN 1977, PRIOR TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE SUR-FACE MINING CONTROL AND RECLAMATION ACT OF 1977."

"THIS FIELD TRIP," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL POINTED OUT, "WILL BE FOLLOWED UP BY OVERSIGHT HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 21 AND 23."

"IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE, AND WHO HAVE NEVER SEEN A SURFACE MINING OPERATION, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TOUR," RAHALL STRESSED. "I BELIEVE FIRST-HAND INFORMATION OBTAINED IN 1977, LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR A MORE REALISTIC SURFACE MINE CONTROL ACT, AND THIS TRIP I AM SURE WILL BE JUST AS HELPFUL," CONGRESSMAN RAHALL CONCLUDED.

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