News From

LEASE CONTACT: Michael Serpe
202-224-3452

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 3, 1984

RAHALL SECURES \$30 MILLION FOR BECKLEY TO LOGAN LINK

Washington D.C. --- West Virginia's Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall, has won approval of a \$30 million highway link between Beckley and Logan.

Rahall, a member of the House Committee on Public Works and Transportation, included the Beckley/Logan provision in the Committee's 1984 Highway Bill (HR 5504).

"At the present time, no direct highway connects Beckley and Logan," Rahall pointed out, "and for this reason, I pushed for the construction of a 5-mile, two-lane highway between Pardee (on Buffalo Creek) and Route 85 (on Kopperstone Mountain)."

NOTE: MAP ATTACHED

"This project is compatible with sections previously built between Route 85 in Boone County, and Bolt in Raleigh County, and between Man and Pardee in Logan County," Congressman Rahall went on to explain.

The Rahall project entails new construction on half of the five mile stretch, and improvements to the existing roadway on the other half. The project will be constructed as a two-lane modern highway with full shoulders.

The project will receive 100 percent federal funding.

"In my judgement, the completion of this highway will expedite the transportation of coal from active mines, and increase the feasibility of opening new mines," Rahall observed.

"The benefits of closing this gap between two of southern West Virginia's coal centers," Congressman Rahall pointed out, "are found in economic activities as well as transportation efficiency."

The next step for the legislation will be consideration by the full Public Works Committee. Committee action is expected next week.

