

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 29, 1984CONTACT: Michael Serpe
202-225-3452**W.V. WATER PROJECTS APPROVED. RAHALL ANNOUNCES**

Washington D.C. --- "With the approval of the Water Resources Development Act, by the House of Representatives," West Virginia's Fourth District Congressman Nick Rahall observed, "inland waterway improvements will be made, clean drinking water guaranteed, and recreational white water rafting in West Virginia will all benefit."

Rahall's comments were made in support of HR 3678, which was passed by the House on Thursday.

"In an effort to facilitate commercial water transportation, especially the movement of coal," Rahall pointed out, "\$260 Million is provided in this legislation for the construction of two new locks at Gallipolis."

"Bottlenecks caused at Gallipolis, because of outdated equipment, have hurt the economy of the Ohio River Valley. With this funding, future delays of shipments, can be alleviated," Congressman Rahall said.

"In addition," Rahall stated, "this legislation authorizes the construction of new locks and dams at Winfield on the Kanawha River."

HR 3678, also contains a provision to provide the Huntington Water Corporation with a \$2.4 Million loan to improve its pumping facilities.

"Constructed in the early 1900's, deterioration is causing inefficiencies in the Huntington system," Rahall observed, "and I am pleased this funding will guarantee clean and safe drinking water to the residents of the Huntington area in the future."

Finally, this legislation, "will provide a boost to white water rafting on the Gauley River," Congressman Rahall said.

"Through my efforts, language has been inserted in this bill to provide for water releases from the Summersville Dam that will facilitate white water recreation on the 26 mile tailwater segment of the Gauley river, commencing at the base of the Dam," Rahall pointed out.

"In the past, river flow has limited the recreational capabilities of the River. However, now white water enthusiasts, and fishermen, can partake in the natural sporting benefits of the Gauley," Congressman Rahall went on to say.