

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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COAL GROUP TO HOLD FINAL MEETING

Washington, D.C. --- U.S. Representative Nick J. Rahall, II, (D-WV), chairman of the Congressional Coal Group, has announced that the group will hold its final meeting of the 98th Congress on Tuesday, September 25.

The meeting will be held in Room 2253 of the Rayburn House Office Building from 3:00-4:30 p.m., and is open to the public.

Among the topics discussed at the meeting will be recent actions concerning U.S.-Japan coal trade. The Coal Group has closely monitored and expressed concern over the decline in coal exports to Japan.

A final status report on coal-related legislation in the 98th Congress will also be discussed.

Representing the Administration at the meeting will be Richard Fairbanks, Ambassador-At-Large, Department of State, and Michael P. Kelley, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Basic Industries/Trade Development, Department of Commerce.

Coal exporters will be represented by Mark Joseph, chairman of the Coal Exporters Association of America; C.R. (Pete) Moore, president of Western Coal Exporters Council; Ramesh Malhorta, president of NERCO Coal Co.; and Richard Clements, president of the Mississippi Valley Coal Exporters Council.

A representative from the Embassy of Japan is also expected to attend.

"We are concerned with the dramatic decline in coal exports to Japan during a period of an extreme trade imbalance between the two nations", Congressman Rahall observed. "I hope that this meeting will allow us to explore all avenues toward remedying this situation in the 99th Congress".