TAPE FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4

Cold

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

RECENTLY, WE WITNESSED A FIRE AT A CHEMICAL PLANT IN ONA WHICH COULD HAVE HAD GRAVE EFFECTS ON OUR WHOLE AREA. FOUND IN THE BURNING PLANT WERE BARRELS OF HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN REMOVED WHEN THE SITE WAS CLEANED UP OUT OF THE SUPERFUND ESTABLISHED BY EPA HOWEVER, THESE BARRELS REMAINED ON THE SCENE WHERE THEY CAME DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO BURNING AND RELEASING HARMFUL FUMES INTO THE AIR. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FIRE, I WROTE TO THE EPA, ASKING FOR AN INVESTIGATION INTO WHY THESE HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS WERE LEFT UNGUARDED AT THE SITE. EVEN NOW, THOSE CHEMICALS ARE STILL AT THE SITE OF THE BLAZE, A TEMPTATION FOR AN ARSONIST WHO HAS ALREADY STRUCK ONCE AT THE SITE AND JUST MAY DO SO AGAIN.

I DO NOT FIND IT ACCEPTABLE THAT THESE HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS CAN REMAIN AT THE SITE. I INTEND TO GET TO THE ROOT OF THIS MATTER TO FIND OUT IF EPA AND/OR THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS APPALLING OVERSIGHT.

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.