

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Jerry Fite
Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

,p199
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 14, 1986

CONTACT: Jerry Burkot
202-225-3452

RAHALL REQUESTS PUBLIC AIRING OF OHIO RIVER CONSTRUCTION PLANS;
CORPS OF ENGINEERS AGREES TO DECEMBER 18 HEARING

HUNTINGTON, W. VA. -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in response to a request by U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV), will hold a public hearing to discuss the planned construction of a mooring facility on the Ohio River by the Ohio River Company. The meeting will be held December 18, at 7:00 pm in the Marshall University Student Center.

"I wrote to the Corps at the end of October, requesting a public meeting on this issue," Rahall said. "Some of my constituents who live along the Ohio River had expressed their concern to me over the planned mooring facility, and I felt it best that a public hearing be held so that all sides could air their positions."

Rahall expressed support for the Corps' decision and said that he is eagerly awaiting the hearing, so that he will be able to decide for himself if the construction should proceed. "I am hopeful that the facts and definite intentions brought out at the public meeting will alleviate many fears of the people who live along the Ohio River," Rahall observed. "I am anxious to hear from the Ohio River Company exactly what they have in mind with regard to this project."

-30-

The Ohio River Company, a coal loading facility on the Ohio has applied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a construction permit to construct a mooring facility on the Ohio.

Residents living along the Ohio and some bird watchers have objected to the facility being constructed.

They wrote the Cman, requesting he intervene.

The Corps usually allows a 30 day public comment period on the applications. If there is a lot of controversy, they will hold a public meeting.

The Cman wrote the Corps asking for a public meeting (mayor nelson did too).

The Corps has decided to hold such a meeting on December 18, 1986 at 7:00pm at the Marshall University Student Center. I believe Lt. Col. Gordon Jobe will preside at the meeting, he is Deputy District Engineer.

The Congressman can express his support for this meeting and that the corps responded to his request so that the issue can be fully aired for the public's satisfaction and so that Ohio River can fully explain the facility and its operation.

(There is some confusion as to what Ohio River Co. wants to construct--this meeting should help explain their position)