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RAHALL PUSHES FOR GALLIPOLIS LOCKS

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.), in an effort to secure funding for a new Gallipolis Locks complex on the Ohio River, has contacted the chairmen of a House-Senate Conference on the 1988 Energy and Water Appropriations bill and voiced his support of the project.

In a letter to Representative Tom Bevill (D-Ala.), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, Rahall and eight other Congressmen from Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky ask the conference to support the House-approved appropriation of \$34 million. The Senate measure calls for \$16 million in funding.

"The current locks at Gallipolis are a problem," Rahall said. "They are located in a bend of the river and furthermore the newer, larger coal barges cannot easily and safely navigate the channel. The House passed appropriation would enable the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to correct the increasingly serious navigational hazards and ease congestion, allowing river traffic to flow more freely. It will also allow West Virginia coal to reach ports all along the Ohio River all the way to Pittsburgh."

The House measure included \$34 million for on-site construction work for a new Gallipolis Locks complex on the Ohio River, with 50 percent of the allowance being drawn from revenue held in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund.