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RAHALL ANNOUNCES A.R.C. GRANT TO MERCER COUNTY Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall said today that the Appalachian Regional Commission has approved a \$76,800 grant for the construction of an access road to serve Dominion Hardwoods, Inc., a new wood products manufacturing firm near Princeton in Mercer County.

"Approximately 0.17 miles of access road will be built from Route 219/28 to and through the 26 acres site to be developed by Dominion Hardwoods," Rahall said. "The road will be part of the state roads system and, in addition to serving Dominion, it will also provide access to a vacant, developable 50 acre site." Two 11 foot travel lanes will be provided with 4 foot shoulders to compatible with existing Route 219/28.

"I think that this action will be a shot in the arm for the local economy," Rahall pointed out. "Dominion Hardwoods will be employing over 100 people, with a payroll in excess of \$1 million annually. It is this type of diversification and investment which will allow us to rebound in West Virginia."

Rahall also praised the A.R.C. for recognizing the needs of West Virginia and acting to meet them. "This is why I have always beem so willing to go to bat for the A.R.C.," Rahall observed.

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