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RAHALL BULLETIN BOARD

Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today met with Orson G. Swindle, III, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, and discussed several economic development projects in southern West Virginia.

During the meeting in Rahall's office, Secretary Swindle and Rep. Rahall explored various avenues of moving forward on E.D.A. projects in the Fourth District. "I feel that the meeting with Secretary Swindle was a very positive one. I found him to be very interested and receptive to furthering the expansion and diversification of our economic base," Rep. Rahall observed. "I am looking forward to working with him on these and future economic development projects in West Virginia."

Rahall and Swindle discussed the Hall's Ridge Road water project in Mercer County, which was recently granted initial approval, a planning grant for Huntington as well as the possibility of the City of Huntington's application for a Small Business Incubator grant, and other projects.

Rep. Rahall will be sponsoring an Open House at the Sydney Christie Federal Court House in Huntington tomorrow, Friday, April 24, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Rahall will display his computerized database on federal government contracting. He urged all interested parties to attend. "Government contracting resource representatives will be on hand, and this will be a valuable opportunity to meet with them and discuss specific interests," Rahall pointed out.

Rep. Rahall also announced that the Defense Electronics Supply Center (DESC) will be conducting a business opportunity program for interested manufacturers and suppliers of consumable electronic components on Thursday, May 7, 1987, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the Presidential Banquet Center, 4548 Marstead Circle, in Kettering, Ohio.

"DESC is the Department of Defense's principal buyer of electronic spare parts for the U.S. military services, purchasing some \$650 million in components annually," Rahall explained. "DESC actively seeks new sources to expand the competitive base on these procurements and one of their major outreach efforts is the business opportunity program on May 7. This event is intended to provide prospective manufacturers and suppliers with information on how to do business with DESC and, more importantly, to direct them toward actual business opportunities."

"Building a one-on-one relationship with government contracting people is as necessary as building private business relationships," Rahall commented. "Events such as this one, as well as my own open houses and seminars, allow important introductions of who does the buying in the federal government, and, hopefully, opens the door to a lasting and fruitful business partnership."

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