

✓  
m  
CONGRESSMAN

News  
From \_\_\_\_\_

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 13, 1987

CONTACT: Jerry Burkot  
202-225-3452

## KEY CORPS' PANEL RECOMMENDS WORK ON WINFIELD, RAHALL SAYS

Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) said today that a panel of the Army Corps of Engineers has issued a report recommending replacement of an existing lock at the Winfield Locks on the Kanawha River, as well as other work to improve access.

"I feel that this plan would provide an efficient and safe facility for maintaining water transportation between the Kanawha River and Ohio River navigation systems," Rahall said. "This is a key element in our maritime transportation system and is in dire need of improvement and upgrading."

The report of the Rivers and Harbor Board of the Army Corps of Engineers recommends that a single 110 by 800 foot chamber replace one of the single existing locks at Winfield. In addition, there would be selective widening of the navigation channel to 300 feet at locations that could restrict optimum use of the new lock. The cost of the proposed modification is estimated at \$159,200,000.

"Navigation problems have arisen at locks that are too small for modern barge and tow sizes projected for Kanawha River traffic," Rahall observed. "Extensive tow delays occur and would become more frequent without these improvements as traffic increases."

-30-