

CONGRESSMAN

News
From _____

Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 14, 1987

CONTACT: Jerry Burkot
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RAHALL HAILS CSX MOVE TO HUNTINGTON

Huntington, W. Va. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today hailed the CSX Transportation announcement of the transfer of 500 jobs to Huntington as "great" economic news for the city and predicted a marked boost for the real estate and retail market in the Huntington area.

Approximately 500 CSX Transportation employees from the Louisville, KY plant will be transferred to the CSX heavy locomotive repair shop in Huntington beginning in April of 1987 with the transfer to be completed by early 1988. With a new total of more than 1,000 employees, Huntington will be the largest locomotive repair center on the CSX Transportation system.

"The influx of the additional \$24 million to the CSX payroll in Huntington will be a great boost to the local economy," Rahall predicted. "The real estate market will receive a much-needed shot in the arm to accomodate the nearly 500 employees and their families who will be moving to Huntington in the next year. The off-shoot of the influx of these families to the city will also be felt throughout the retail markets in the area."

Rahall was particularly pleased at the process through which the Huntington facility was chosen to relocate the employees. "CSX, after a thorough study, found the Huntington shop to be the most efficient and cost-effective than their other location because of the shop's outstanding past record, its location, and, most importantly, its people," Rahall observed. "This is a real tribute to the dedicated and hard-working employees of the Huntington shop."

Rahall had been in touch with John Snow, president and CEO of the CSX Corporation, urging that Huntington be considered as the prime transfer location for the locomotive repair shop. Rahall cited Huntington's long-standing relationship with CSX and expressed Huntington's and the state of West Virginia's willingness to maintaining and expanding CSX's operations in Huntington.

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\$74 million



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Huntington, WV, January 14, 1987 -- approximately 500 employees will be added to the work force at the CSX Transportation heavy locomotive repair shops here in 1987 primarily as the result of the closing of a similar facility in Louisville, KY.

Approximately 800 CSX Transportation employees in the Louisville area, most of whom will be offered transfers at company expense to their new work locations, will be affected by the change.

The heavy repair work currently performed at South Louisville and about 450 of the jobs there will be transferred to Huntington, which now employs approximately 550 people.

With more than 1,000 employees, Huntington will be the largest locomotive heavy repair center on the CSX Transportation system.

In addition, other work now being performed at South Louisville will be transferred to other locations as follows:

--Running repairs will be performed at the company's new locomotive repair facility at Corbin, KY, with 160 positions transferred there from Louisville.

--Approximately 25 people will be transferred to the new Waycross, GA, locomotive repair shop.

In making the decision to close the South Louisville Shop, A. Crane Jones, Jr., senior vice president - engineering and mechanical for CSX Rail Transport, said, "Given the competitive

realities of the transportation marketplace today, we could no longer justify operating major locomotive repair shops at Louisville, Huntington and Waycross."

"The Huntington facility emerged as a more cost effective choice from our studies because of its more strategic location on our core system and the fact that it is a single structure in which locomotives can be repaired on a more efficient assembly line basis," Jones said.

Closing of the Louisville Shops will begin in April 1987 and should be completed by early 1988.

After the changes are made, the company will have about 5,500 employees in West Virginia.

CSX Transportation, a business unit of CSX Corporation, operates a rail system of almost 24,000 miles, serving 20 states in the Eastern United States, the District of Columbia and the Province of Ontario.

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