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CONGRESSMAN NICK Rahall WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL TO DISCUSS McDOWELL ECONOMY

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In an effort to revitalize McDowell County's ailing economy, U.S. Representative Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) announced today that he will meet with county business and government leaders this weekend in Gary.

"McDowell County is in need of help," Rahall said. "The President contends that the country is in better shape today than it was six years ago. Obviously he doesn't look in McDowell County's direction when making his assessment and he will not support trade policies to save the heartland of America."

Several economic projects are underway in McDowell County by various organizations. Rahall hopes that by getting the leaders together for a session, the different strategies can be shared for the better of the whole county.

"There are a lot of great ideas on what to do about the economy in McDowell County," Rahall commented. "By getting these people together and sharing ideas, we can continue the path to progress McDowell Countians have decided to take. It's vital to publicize this pride in McDowell County."

The Congressman believes those who have contributed time and efforts in helping the county progress should receive commendation.

"All who have taken part in the E.S.O.P. plan for employee operation of the USX mines, the Welch New Deal, the McDowell Economic Development Authority and the many other projects are to be commended on their efforts.

They have performed well." Rahall said.

Rahall will be in McDowell County Saturday, December 13. His meeting with business and community leaders is set for 12:30 at the Gary Intermediate School. The Congressman will appear at a "Toys for Tots" benefit in Welch prior to his meeting in Gary.