FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1989

RAHALL SAYS OSMRE GIVES \$5 MILLION GRANT TO WEST VIRGINIA

Washington - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall(D-W.Va.) announced today that the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has awarded the state of West Virginia a grant of \$5,269,559 to administer the state's abandoned mine lands (AML) reclamation program.

"The grant will pay all of West Virginia's expenses to operate its AML program through September 30, 1989, including transportation, equipment, supplies and salaries of about 60 state workers," Rahall said.

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RAHALL SAYS CONTRACT AWARDED FOR RECLAMATION PROJECT IN NEW RIVER GORGE

Washington - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) announced today that a contract for a second abandoned mine reclamation project in the New River Gorge National River has been awarded by the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement. The project will include the closing of 11 mine openings and elimination of 300 feet of highwall along Arbuckle Creek near Minden in Fayette County.

Rahall said the contract for this project went to Kimberly Industries of Charleston, West Virginia, on its bid of \$59,466. The work is to be completed around March 1.