

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

CONGRESSMAN

# Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

HOLD FOR RELEASE UNTIL NOON  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1989

CONTACT: JERRY BURKOT  
202-225-3452

## RAHALL PRAISES DOMINION HARDWOOD, APPLAUDS POSSIBLE WOODWORKING TRAINING CENTER

Princeton, W.Va. - Two years and two weeks after groundbreaking, Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) joined Dominion Hardwood officials in festivities observing the dedication of the Mercer County facility. Located in the Carper Industrial Park near the intersection of Interstate 77 and U.S. Route 460, the plant is an indication of the economic development taking place in Southern West Virginia.

"I am proud to have worked with T.J. Connelly in making this plant a reality. It has taken a strong dedicated effort not only from the officials of Dominion Hardwood, but also from the architects and construction crews who are responsible for the physical structure," Rahall said. "As I have stated previously and in my economic development seminar I held here in Princeton, cooperation is one of the keys to economic development and diversification. By working together, we can build great opportunities for Southern West Virginia."

Rahall, who has conducted economic development seminars throughout Southern West Virginia, including one in Princeton, played a significant role in Dominion Hardwood's landing of a \$525,344 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration for construction of water lines and storage tank. An EDA representative was present at Rahall's Princeton seminar.

"The U.S. EDA provided over \$525,000 to the Mercer County Commission so that water lines could be extended and adequate service provided not only to Dominion Hardwood, but also to future residents of the industrial park," Rahall said.

The dedication of Dominion Hardwood coincides with the firm's annual stockholders and directors meeting. The Princeton plant will produce architectural plywood panels and doors that will be used in office buildings, hotels and exclusive homes.

Rahall also applauded news of a possible woodworking center in Mercer County. The Congressman's office has been informed by the U.S. Forestry Service that the center is a possibility for the county.

"Once again you are seeing economic development and diversification in action in Mercer County," Rahall commented. "A whole new wood products industry is on the rise, when only a couple of years back it was just a dream. Within the last two years we have witnessed the creation of the Forest Products Marketing Laboratory, the opening of Dominion Hardwood and the possibility of a training center all in the Princeton area. This is an example of development at its best."

-30-