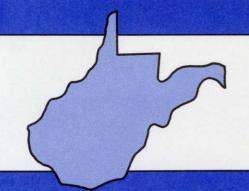
PRESS RELEASE



V.S. Congressman Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS



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RAHALL ANNOUNCES FUNDS FOR BECKLEY COLLEGE

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, II (D-WV) ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) HAS CONTRACTED BECKLEY COLLEGE TO ASSIST THEM IN A GEOLOGICAL STUDY. BECKLEY COLLEGE WILL RECEIVE \$170,000 FOR THEIR EFFORTS.

RAHALL ADDED THAT THE DOE WANTED BECKLEY COLLEGE TO HELP IN DEVELOPING A NEW WAY TO APPROACH THE EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION OF NATURAL GAS. IT IS THEIR HOPES THAT THROUGH PROBING DEEP WITHIN MOTHER EARTH IN WAYS PREVIOUSLY UNTHOUGHT OF, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND NEW UNTAPPED SOURCES OF NATURAL GAS.

"This is a \$170,000 installment of a total package estimated at \$2.2 million," noted Rahall. "But even more exciting than the immediate money that Beckley College is receiving, are the possibilities that this project suggests. Who knows how many jobs that this investment could produce for Southern West Virginia?"

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