

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1990 PHONE: (202) 225-3452

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GRANTS FOR ABANDONED MINE LANDS AWARDED

HUNTINGTON, WV -- U.S. REP. NICK J. RAHALL (D-W.VA.), CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE MINING AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE TODAY ANNOUNCED THE U.S. OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING HAS AWARDED WEST VIRGINIAS ABANDONED MINES RECLAMATION PROGRAM \$7,248,275 IN FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 1990. THESE FUNDS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS RAHALL ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY.

THE STATE'S AML PROGRAM FOR ADMINISTRATION WAS \$4,547,487 FOR AWARDED PROGRAM OPERATION, TRANSPORTATION, EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES. THE STATE'S EMERGENCY AML PROGRAM WAS AWARDED \$2,700,788.

"THE AML PROGRAM IS VITAL TO WEST VIRGINIA. WE PLACE NO HIGHER PRIORITY IN OUR STATE THAN THE CAN HEALTH AND WELFARE OF OUR CITIZENS. THESE FUNDS WILL ALLOW US TO CONTINUE TO RECLAIM HAZARDOUS AND DANGEROUS MINING SITES. I WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM FULLY FROM MY POSITION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MINING AND NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE." RAHALL SAID.

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