



U.S. Congressman

Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 8, 1993

CONTACT: KENT KEYSER
Acting Press Secretary
Phone: (202) 225-3452

**RAHALL ANNOUNCES RELIEF FOR POCAHONTAS FARMERS
Low Interest Loans for Farmers Hit by Summer Drought**

WASHINGTON, DC -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) announced today that U.S. Secretary of Agriculture has officially recognized the adverse economic impact of this summer's drought conditions on Pocahontas County and is providing some federal relief.

The Secretary's designation of Pocahontas County as a contiguous disaster area makes family-sized farm operators in Pocahontas county eligible to apply for low-interest emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). Each application will be evaluated on its own merits; the extent of losses, security available, repayment ability, and other factors will be taken into account.

"I urge all affected farmers to contact FmHA or my Lewisburg office for additional information and help in applying for assistance," said Rahall. "The address of my Lewisburg office is 101 N Court St, PO Box 5, Lewisburg, WV 24901 and the phone number is 647-3228."

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

November 3 1993

Honorable Gaston Caperton
Governor
State of West Virginia
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Governor Caperton:

This is in further reply to your letter dated September 20, 1993, requesting a disaster designation for eight West Virginia counties due to drought conditions, which occurred from May 1, 1993, through September 1, 1993.

Damage Assessment Reports for these areas have been reviewed, and it has been determined that all eight counties sustained sufficient production losses to warrant Secretarial disaster designations. Therefore, I am designating the following counties as a primary disaster areas:

Berkeley
Grant
Hampshire
Hardy

Jefferson
Mineral
Morgan
Pendleton

In accordance with the Emergency Agricultural Credit Act of 1984, the following additional areas of your State are named as contiguous counties:

Pocahontas
Preston

Randolph
Tucker

This disaster designation makes family-sized farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). Each application will be considered on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, repayment ability, and other eligibility requirements.

Local FmHA county offices can provide affected farmers with further information and assist them in completing applications for assistance.

Sincerely,


MIKE ESPY
Secretary

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONWEST VIRGINIASenators:

Sen. Robert C. Byrd

Sen. John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV

Representatives:

1st District - Rep. Alan B. Mollohan

*Grant *Mineral Preston Tucker

2nd District - Rep. Bob Wise

*Berkeley	*Jefferson	Randolph
*Hampshire	*Morgan	
*Hardy	*Pendleton	

3rd District - Rep. Nick J. Rahall, II

Pocahontas

*Primary County

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Contiguous Counties in States Adjacent to West VirginiaMARYLANDSenators:

Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes

Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski

Representatives:

6th District - Rep. Roscoe G. Bartlett

Allegany

Garrett

Washington

VIRGINIASenators:

Sen. John W. Warner

Sen. Charles S. Robb

Representatives:

F

558-2203

Jennifer-

Johnston

6th District - Rep. Robert W. Goodlatte

Augusta Highland

10th District - Rep. Frank R. Wolf

Clarke	Loudoun	Shenandoah
Frederick	Rockingham	

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Congressional Relations



COVER SHEET

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