



U.S. Congressman

Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

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HOUSE PASSES ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATIONS

Millions Included For West Virginia Water Projects

\$3.5 Million Approved For Southern West Virginia Pilot Water Project
\$500,000 Included For Virginia Point River Study
\$1 Million Provided To Assail Bluestone Trash

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The House of Representatives today passed, 332 to 81 legislation containing millions of federal dollars for West Virginia water projects including \$3.5 in start-up funds for the southern West Virginia pilot water project, according to U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.).

The Energy and Water Appropriations bill also includes \$500,000 for feasibility studies of development along Virginia Point, the Parkersburg and Vienna, and Point Pleasant riverfronts, as well as an additional \$1 million to assail the trash problem at Bluestone Dam.

"This funding is essential to our continued flood control efforts, navigation needs, and water resource management," said Rahall. "Moreover, it contains needed dollars for a number of initiatives I have worked on that will benefit the quality of life and environment of southern West Virginia."

Rahall's pilot water project would direct the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assist local communities in the design and construction of water treatment and water supply facilities. Rahall created the project last year, as part of the Water Resources Development Act, to serve the 16 counties of the Third Congressional District. That legislation was signed into law by President Bush in October 1992.

Commenting on the funding added to study Virginia Point in Wayne County Rahall added, "Riverfront development is key to unlocking the economic development potential along the Big Sandy and Ohio Rivers. We have made some substantial progress. Now we can continue to move forward."

The Energy and Water Appropriations bill also provides \$45.6 million for the Levisa and Tug Forks and Upper Cumberland River project in West Virginia, Kentucky and Virginia; \$22 million for the Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dams; and \$56.6 million for the Winfield's Lock and Dam.

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Corps of Engineers general investigations and planning projects were included as well: Oceana, WV received \$400,000 for investigations; Island Creek at Logan received \$225,000 for planning; Kanawha River Basin Comprehensive received \$324,000 for investigations; and Kanawha River Navigation received \$309,000 for investigations.

Rahall added that the bill also includes the Corps of Engineers' Operations and Maintenance projects for the coming fiscal year:

Beech Fork Lake, WV	\$935,000
Bluestone Lake, WV	\$3.6 million
Burnsville Lake, WV	\$1.4 million
East Lynn Lake, WV	\$946,000
Elk River Harbor, WV	\$18,000
Elkins, WV	\$31,000
Kanawha River Locks and Dams, WV	\$11.5 million
R.D. Bailey Lake, WV	\$1.2 million
Stonewall Jackson, WV	\$938,000
Summersville Lake, WV	\$1.2 million
Sutton Lake, WV	\$2.8 million
Tygart Lake, WV	\$1.4 million

The legislation, an agreement between the Senate and House, in which Senator Robert C. Byrd was instrumental in assisting with funding will now go to the President to be signed into law.