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## NASA TO VISIT AREA BUSINESSES

WASHINGTON, DC -- U. S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall announced a representative from NASA's Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, will meet with area businesses to discuss procurement opportunities and possible technical assistance available from NASA.

"We need to maximize every opportunity to increase our economic base and selling to the federal government is a viable option many businesses overlook. The federal government has to buy from someone so why not a West Virginia company. In this year alone, over \$86 million in federal contracts have been awarded to West Virginia firms with help from the Regional Contracting Assistance Center, and that could be just the tip of the iceberg." Rahall said.

Ms. Wanda Randolph, Project Engineer with NASA will be in Huntington on Wednesday, December 8th to meet with key officials of Huntington Plating, D&E Industries, and ACF Industries to discuss procurement opportunities and possible technical assistance available from NASA.

This is the second in a series of visits set up by Rahall to acquaint businesses in his district with the availability of free resources offered by NASA.

"Most people do not know that NASA offers free technical assistance to businesses. NASA engineers conduct a multitude of studies each year, and businesses can take advantage of the findings of this research without incurring the overhead of research costs," Rahall said.

Any business interested in scheduling a future visit with NASA representatives may contact Rahall's Huntington District Office at (304) 522-6425.

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Beckley 252-5000 • Bluefield 325-6222 • Logan 752-4934 • Huntington 522-NICK • Lewisburg 647-3228

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Congressman Nick Rahall announced today that he has invited Ms. Wanda Randolph, Project Engineer with NASA Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, to meet with businesses in the Huntington area. Rahall said Ms. Randolph will be in Huntington Wednesday December 8th to meet with key officials of Huntington Plating, D&E Industries, and ACF Industries to discuss procurement opportunities and possible technical assistance available from NASA.

Rahall said, "We need to maximize every opportunity to increase our economic base and contracting with the federal government is a viable option many businesses overlook. The federal government has to buy from someone and I would like for it to be from a West Virginia company. In this year alone, over \$86 million in federal contracts have been awarded to West Virginia firms, and that could be just the tip of the iceberg."

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"Most people do not know that NASA offers free technical assistance to businesses. NASA engineers conduct a multitude of studies each year, and businesses can take advantage of the findings of this research without incurring the overhead of research costs," Rahall said.

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