



U.S. Congressman  
**Nick Rahall**  
*WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**RAHALL ANNOUNCES MILLIONS MORE FOR MINE RECLAMATION**

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) announced today that the Office of Surface Mining has awarded \$16.2 million for abandoned mine reclamation projects for the state of West Virginia. Over 50 percent, or \$8.1 million will be directed toward the Fourth District alone.

"These funds seek to protect those in West Virginia who live near abandoned coal mines, and it will help to eliminate the health, safety, and environmental threats that these residents face," said Rahall.

Major projects funded by the grant are:

o Logan County:

Whitman Refuse Pile- \$1.3 million for a project that will reclaim a six-acre refuse pile and control flooding on Whitman Creek.

Stowe Structures- \$1.020 million for a project that will eliminate refuse, remove abandoned buildings, and control water runoff problem.

o Mercer County:

McComas #1- \$1.3 million for a project that will reclaim that refuse pile.

o Raleigh County:

Amigo Refuse Pile- \$1.764 million for a project that will eliminate refuse piles, close portals, remove garbage and an old tipple structure.

o Wyoming County:

Marianna Refuse Pile- \$1.028 million for a project that will reclaim two refuse piles.

Additional projects include:

- o Logan County - \$350,000 for the Holden Subsidence project.
- o McDowell County - \$700,000 for the Rift Refuse Pile project.
- o Raleigh County - \$600,000 for the Ameagle Complex project.

The funding is made available from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Bill which Congressman Rahall established as part of the 1977 Surface Mining Act. Late last year, Rahall gained approval, by the House of Representatives, for his legislation to reauthorize the program beyond its current expiration date.

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