



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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**RAHALL URGES CONGRESS TO FUND WV WATER PROJECTS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today urged a House panel to fund several water projects in southern West Virginia, including \$950,000 for the Corps of Engineers to study commercial expansion along the Big Sandy in Cabell and Wayne Counties and development of a recreation area at Virginia Point.

Rahall wants \$750,000 for the Big Sandy and \$200,000 for the Virginia point studies.

"We have a great opportunity for development of our water resources in Cabell and Wayne counties and we must not waste any opportunity to expand on that," said Rahall during testimony before the Energy and Water Appropriations subcommittee.

The public port study would look into the formation of ports along the Ohio River and the Big Sandy in an effort to help existing businesses and to lure new businesses to the area. The Virginia Point study would examine the feasibility of a recreation area.

"The entire area along the River is awakening to the economic virtue of the mighty Ohio," said Rahall.

Rahall also spoke out in favor of two other projects important to southern West Virginia: Island Creek in Logan and the Oceana Local Protection Project.

"Island Creek at Logan preconstruction engineering and design (PED) will be completed with \$304,000 in fiscal year 1993. Nothing was requested in the President's budget for Oceana; however, \$400,000 would be required for an initial reevaluation report which is supported by the City of Oceana," said Rahall.

Another project already in the construction phase is the Tug Fork project. It is budgeted by the President for \$44.5 million, and Rahall urged the panel to approve more funding, including \$1.5 million for evacuation and floodproofing at Hatfield Bottom.

Congressman Rahall is a senior member of the Public Works and Transportation Committee and the Water Resources subcommittee.

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