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From: Travers, David
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Subject: hearing?

Rahall, Capito push for hearing on spill

PARKERSBURG NEWS AND SENTINEL WASHINGTON - Two representatives from West Virginia are asking for a congressional hearing on the chemical spill in Kanawha County that disrupted water service to 300,000 customers in nine counties. The request was by Rep. Nick Rahall, D-3rd, and Rep. Shelley Moore Capito, R-2nd, to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Rahall is the ranking Democrat on the Transportation Committee, which has jurisdiction over emergency response, the Clean Water Act and the Corps of Engineers. The leak occurred last week at the Freedom Industries coal preparation plant on the Elk River, about 2 miles upstream from a West Virginia American Water Co. treatment plant. A state of emergency was declared, residents were told not to drink, wash or cook with the water. Some restrictions were lifted and an investigation is underway. Capito also is a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. "I'm pleased that Chairman (Bill) Shuster has agreed to hold this hearing, and a date and a witness list will be released in the coming weeks," she said.

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