

August 25, 2006 Officials sign Clymer project agreement

For Immediate Release

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Clymer, PA - Congressman John Murtha today joined federal, state and local officials in signing a partnering agreement for the Clymer Flood Damage Reduction Project.

The agreement affirms the partners' commitment to proceed with a feasibility study, which will determine the most appropriate plan for reducing potential flood damages in the borough. The study is expected to take two years to complete at a cost of about \$1 million.

"Flooding has been a recurring problem here in Clymer, so I'm glad to see that we're moving forward with the planning necessary to address the problem," Murtha said.

The Congressman has added \$750,000 to the 2007 House Energy and Water Development Appropriation to cover three-fourths of the project costs through the Section 581 flood-protection program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps will lead the study in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Clymer Borough. DEP will pay about one eighth of the project cost, and the borough and county will pay the final one-eighth.

Participating in today's partnership signing ceremony were Col. Stephen L. Hill, District Engineer of the Army Corps; Scott Steigerwald, federal project coordinator for DEP; Rodney Ruddock, chairman of the Indiana County Commissioners; Jerry Roof, secretary-treasurer of the borough; state Rep. Dave Reed; and state Sen. Don White.

"We sincerely appreciate the support of our state officials, because without their help, the local community could not proceed with this project," Murtha said.