



LOBBY VISITS: Materials & Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in ending mountaintop removal by helping us ensure passage of the Clean Water Protection Act! Meeting with your representative is an effective and direct means of influencing his or her opinion about this issue.

**The goal of your meeting is to ask your representative to co-sponsor
*H.R. 2169, the Clean Water Protection Act.***

Included are materials to present to your representative when you meet with her/him:

- 8 page, full-color Lobby Piece
- Clean Water Protection Act Basic Fact Sheet
- Current Co-sponsor List (as of Date on List)
- Clean Water Protection Act Bill Summary
- Lead Sponsor Representative Pallone's Floor Statement
- New York Times Editorial Piece
- Overlay of a Mountaintop Removal Site over DC
- A Dear Colleague Letter

Seven Tips for a Successful Lobby Visit:

1. **Be punctual, positive, polite and prepared. We cannot stress punctuality and politeness enough.**
2. Focus the meeting from the beginning. Introduce yourself, any organization(s) which you represent or are a member of (if any), and the issues that you would like to discuss-
mountaintop removal and the Clean Water Protection Act.
3. Make your "ask" specific—the goal is to get your representative to co-sponsor the **Clean Water Protection Act**. Actually **ask** the representative to co-sponsor—get a response.
4. If your representative says no or is unsure about co-sponsoring, ask what he/she would need in order to consider doing so.
5. If the representative requests information that you do not have, do not make it up! We can help. Offer to get back in touch with him/her about it. (See Tip # 7!)
6. Thank your representative for his/her time. (See Tip #1!)
7. **Follow-up is crucial.** The most important point of a lobby visit is to establish a relationship that continues past the first visit.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Sandra, Field Coordinator for Appalachian Voices, a partner organization of iLoveMountains.org at 828.262.1500 or toll free at 877.277.8642.