

MEMO

September 25, 1990

TO: ~~Marsha~~ *BL*  
from: Joan

RE: South Branch Railroad

Senator Byrd's involvement with the South Branch began before the 1985 flood. Between 1981 and 1984, Senator Byrd was able to secure funding for the rehabilitation of the line, which affected some 2,000+ jobs. See attached documentation from our files.

Following the 1985 flood, Senator Byrd took agency officials to West Virginia on four separate trips to visit flood-related problem sites and he met with agency officials in his office in the Capitol at least eight times. See attached memo. I have marked those in which our file notes indicate that the South Branch Railroad was discussed. At some of these meetings, Senator Byrd requested written reports on specific problem projects, and we have several reports from FEMA in which the South Branch Railroad was mentioned.

By early summer 1986, FEMA indicated that it was out of money, and through Senator Byrd's efforts with respect to the Supplemental (press release attached), funds were made available for continued flood work, including the South Branch Railroad.

(1986)

In mid-September, Senator Byrd requested a specific report on the progress of the South Branch project, and FEMA's response is attached. The final work was all completed by December 1987.