



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Allegheny Power Wins Industry Award for Mutual Assistance to Other Utilities**

**Greensburg, Pa., January 13, 2000** – Allegheny Power, the energy delivery company of Allegheny Energy, Inc., received the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) Emergency Response Award for providing crucial assistance to other utilities coping with natural disasters. Alan J. Noia, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Allegheny Energy, accepted the award today during EEI's annual winter meeting of chief executive officers in Palm Springs, California.

“We take tremendous pride in our employees’ long-standing tradition of extending a helping hand to other companies in times of disaster,” says Allegheny Power President Jay S. Pifer. “When a call for assistance comes in, Allegheny Power employees work with a tenacity and level of excellence that sets an example for others. I am extremely pleased that their efforts are being recognized nationally by our industry.”

From September 1998 to September 1999, Allegheny Power mobilized crews 15 times to help other utilities restore service following ice, rain, and wind storms, including Hurricane Floyd. More than 850 employees participated in these restoration efforts. In every instance, the Company was able to send help without adversely affecting the service reliability of its customers at home. “Mutual assistance requires a team effort, not only from the people who respond to the call for help but also from the people who stay behind,” states Pifer. “The tireless efforts of those who maintain our quality of service at home show a genuine concern for our customers.

“Allegheny Power’s work ethic is well known throughout the industry. I’m particularly proud of our safety record because most of this work is performed under grueling weather conditions,” adds Pifer.

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Careful execution of established procedures has enabled the Company to become very efficient in mobilizing crews to respond to outages – both inside and outside its service area. Mutual assistance trips often benefit customers because the crews returning home review the best practices of other companies to continually refine and improve Allegheny Power's Restore Service process.

Allegheny Power, an Allegheny Energy company, delivers low-cost electric service to three million people in parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. For more information about Allegheny, visit our web site at [www.alleghenypower.com](http://www.alleghenypower.com).

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