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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy helps complete Montour Trail project

Hagerstown, Md., June 1, 2000 -- Allegheny Energy, through its Environmental Stewardship Team, donated funds to help complete a hiking and biking trail through Bethel Park, Pa.

Allegheny Energy's donation helped complete a 2.1-mile section of the Montour Trail, the final mile of the eight-foot-wide, crushed stone trail used by hikers and bikers in the Bethel Park area. The trail begins in Peters Township, Washington County, and continues through Bethel Park to the intersection of Logan and Irishtown roads near the municipal boundary in Allegheny County. It follows the right-of-way of the former Montour Railroad on property now owned by Allegheny Energy. The project also includes construction of parking lots and a trail access ramp.

"Allegheny Energy is extremely pleased to donate funds to help complete this outstanding project and to support the efforts of the Montour Trail Council," said Pamela M. Pershing, the Company's advisor, strategic environmental management. "We will continue to support environmental stewardship activities that help to make our region a better place to live and work. At Allegheny Energy, environmental stewardship is not merely words, it's our commitment."

Opening ceremonies for the trail are planned for Saturday, June 3, at 10 a.m.

The Montour Trail will be linked with other trails that will loop around the City of Pittsburgh and connect to the Yough River Trail, which begins at Station Square in Pittsburgh, passes through McKeesport and Connellsville, and ends at Ohioyle State Park. Eventually, the trail system will reach as far as Washington, D.C.

Allegheny also helped finance a section of the trail near Kittanning, Pa.

Other funding for the Montour Trail was provided by the Municipality of Bethel Park, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, and the Allegheny Land Trust.

Allegheny Energy, Inc. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Hagerstown, Md. The Allegheny Energy family includes *Allegheny Power*, which delivers energy to about three million people in parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia; *Allegheny Energy Supply Company, LLC*, which operates and markets competitive retail and wholesale electric generation and operates regulated electric generation for its affiliates; and *Allegheny Ventures*, which actively invests in and develops telecommunications and energy-related projects. For more information, check our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.