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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy employees clean area waterways during River Sweep 2000

Hagerstown, Md., June 17, 2000 – Allegheny Energy employees joined other community volunteers today to remove debris from area waterways during the 12th annual River Sweep – the largest organized waterway cleanup in the United States. The Company was a corporate sponsor in Pennsylvania and West Virginia for the annual event.

Volunteers collected approximately 250 yards of debris, more than 1,200 bags of trash, and more than 300 tires from waterways in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Volunteers also removed several refrigerators, televisions, and mattresses. At one location, volunteers recovered a completed U.S. Census 2000 form that had been dumped along with household trash.

More than 80 Allegheny Energy employees participated in this year's activities.

“It is a privilege to sponsor an event that helps to keep our waterways clean and heightens environmental awareness for the future,” said Pamela M. Pershing, Allegheny Energy's Advisor, Strategic Environmental Management. “Allegheny Energy's ongoing commitment to the environment is stronger than ever, and we will continue to support environmental stewardship activities like River Sweep, because we are committed to preserving and protecting the communities in which we live and serve.”

River Sweep is a project of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO), an interstate water quality control organization; environmental protection agencies; and natural resource agencies in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. This was Allegheny Energy's fifth year as a River Sweep sponsor.

The cleanup effort covers the Ohio River and its tributaries, including the Allegheny, Cheat, Monongahela, West Fork, and Youghiogheny rivers. River Sweep encompasses more than 3,000 miles of shoreline from Pittsburgh, Pa., to Cairo, Ill., and is aimed at fostering greater environmental concern, improving the environment, and keeping rivers suitable for public use.

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“We are proud of our employees who joined community volunteers in River Sweep 2000 activities in Armstrong, Fayette, Greene, and Westmoreland counties in Pennsylvania and in Harrison, Marion, Pleasants, Preston, and Wood counties in West Virginia,” Pershing said. “This event is a great benefit to the environment, and we commend the efforts of our employees, local watershed and non-profit organizations, environmental protection and natural resource agencies, and other volunteers who helped make River Sweep 2000 an overwhelming success.”

Allegheny Energy, Inc. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Hagerstown, Md. The Allegheny Energy family includes *Allegheny Power*, which delivers natural gas and electricity to about three million people in parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia; *Allegheny Energy Supply, 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, please visit our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.

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