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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Allegheny Power Customers to Receive Redesigned Maryland Bills
With the Start of Customer Choice in the State**

Hagerstown, Md., June 29, 2000 – As Maryland makes the transition to a competitive electric supply marketplace later this week, Allegheny Power, the energy delivery company of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE), is using a new bill format for its customers in the state to accompany the start of customer choice.

Allegheny Power's new two-page bill itemizes the various components of a customer's electric service, allowing them to see the specific services, charges, and taxes they pay for.

Customer choice, which allows consumers to shop for the company that generates, or supplies, their electricity, begins in Maryland on July 1. On that day Allegheny Power will begin issuing the new bills to all customers in the state, whether or not they have chosen to shop for a new supplier. Customers who do not choose a new supplier will continue to receive their electric supply service from Allegheny Power.

Accompanying the new bill will be a guide that explains the changes that were made and the specific items listed on the bill.

Allegheny Power, an Allegheny Energy company, delivers low-cost energy 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.

Editors: An electronic version of the customer guide to the new bill is available at www.alleghenypower.com/customerchoice/mdchoice.htm. Hard copies are also available, upon request.

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