



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Allegheny Energy Declares Quarterly Dividend**

**Hagerstown, Md., December 7, 2000** -- The Board of Directors of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE) today declared a regular quarterly dividend of 43 cents a share on the common stock, unchanged from the prior quarter. The dividend is payable on December 29, 2000, to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 18, 2000.