



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy Acquires Equity Interest in Utility Associates

Hagerstown, Md., February 13, 2001 – Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE) today announced that its unregulated business development arm, Allegheny Ventures, has acquired a 10 percent equity interest in Utility Associates, an emerging software development company that specializes in creating integrated mobile computing solutions for the utility industry. This investment is another step in Allegheny Energy’s strategy to add value for shareholders by seizing investment opportunities in emerging growth companies.

According to Paul M. Barbas, President, Allegheny Ventures, “Our investment in Utility Associates offers us the potential for significant return. Utility Associates is a growing company, and we are excited about the opportunities this new alliance will bring, providing another dimension of growth for our Company and its shareholders.”

Utility Associates, a privately held company based in Atlanta, Ga., develops and markets the mobile work management software, PadWORKS, which enables companies to effectively manage their field operations and places valuable customer and facility-related information directly into the hands of employees working in field.

Barbas added that Allegheny Energy’s delivery business, Allegheny Power, is taking advantage of benefits that Utility Associates’ product offers, resulting in improved efficiencies in our field operations. The Company is using this innovative mobile work management software to provide superior customer service to the Company’s 1.6 million regulated energy delivery customers in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Ted Davis, President of Utility Associates, stated that Utility Associates plans to enhance PadWORKS by integrating it with MapFrame, Inc., mapping software and a wireless dispatching capability. Allegheny Power will conduct a pilot program to test the wireless dispatching enhancement to PadWORKS later this year.

An S&P 500 company, Allegheny Energy, Inc. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Hagerstown, Md. The Allegheny Energy family includes *Allegheny Power*, which delivers electric energy and natural gas 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, visit our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.

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