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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Allegheny Energy teams up with Harrold Middle School, Youngwood Borough, and Sewickley Creek Watershed Association in environmental project**

**Greensburg, Pa., April 26, 2001** – Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE), has taken another step towards protecting the environment by partnering with Harrold Middle School, Youngwood Borough, and the Sewickley Creek Watershed Association in a storm drain-stenciling project, designed to help educate the public about the hazards of dumping pollutants into storm water drains. The project is part of Allegheny Energy's ongoing environmental stewardship efforts to expand and enhance environmental outreach through community partnerships.

On Wednesday, April 25, approximately 20 students from the Ecology Club at Harrold Middle School in Hempfield Township stenciled the message "*DUMP NO WASTE – DRAINS TO SEWICKLEY CREEK*" in front of several dozen municipal storm drains in Youngwood Borough.

"We felt this project was a perfect fit with our corporate environmental stewardship philosophy," said Larry Myers, Environmental Policy Director, Allegheny Energy. "Projects like the storm drain-stenciling program are crucial to protecting our local waterways. Allegheny Energy is committed to working in partnership with the communities we serve and local conservation groups to do our part to protect the environment."

"When Allegheny first approached us about this program, I thought it was an important project for the students to get involved in," said Dan McGuire, a teacher at Harrold Middle School and sponsor of the Ecology Club. "It was a great hands-on project for the students to learn about protecting the environment by participating in a community education activity."

The students started stenciling at 3:30 p.m. and continued until approximately 5:30 p.m. They worked in groups of four with one adult leader per group. For safety reasons, municipal storm drains along 5th and 6th Streets in Youngwood Borough, side streets with minimal traffic, were chosen for the project.

Allegheny Energy provided the materials and sponsored a pizza party for all the participants at Youngwood Park & Pool after the project was completed.

Several members of the Borough Council also participated in the project. “It’s a friendly reminder to residents that everyone has a responsibility for keeping our streams clean and protecting downstream sources of drinking water,” said Michael Pacelli, Chairman of the Safety Department for Youngwood Borough.

The Sewickley Creek Watershed Association (SWCA), an organization formed in 1990 and dedicated to improving the quality of water in the area, was also a partner in the Storm Drain Stenciling Project.

Allegheny Energy, Inc. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Hagerstown, Md. We have been named to the *Fortune* 500 list, the Standard and Poor's 500 index, and the *Forbes* "Platinum 400" list. 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](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com).