



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy employees clean area waterways during River Sweep 2001

Hagerstown, Md., June 16, 2001 – Allegheny Energy employees joined other community volunteers today to remove debris from area waterways during the 13th annual River Sweep – the largest organized waterway cleanup in the United States.

The project is part of Allegheny Energy’s ongoing commitment to environmental leadership and stewardship for the enhancement of the region and the communities the Company serves. Allegheny Energy is a corporate sponsor in both Pennsylvania and West Virginia for the annual event.

At sites coordinated by Allegheny Energy, volunteers collected approximately 145 cubic yards of trash in dumpsters plus an additional 562 bags of trash and debris, and dragged 178 tires from waterways in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. A total of 334 volunteers, including 68 Allegheny Energy employees, participated in this year’s activities at the Allegheny Energy sites.

“For the past six years, Allegheny Energy has been proud to sponsor this event that helps to keep our waterways clean, increases environmental awareness, and sets a tone for future environmental efforts,” said Pamela M. Pershing, Allegheny Energy’s Advisor, Strategic Environmental Management. “Allegheny Energy strongly supports this kind of beneficial environmental project which helps to preserve and protect 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 sixth year as a River Sweep sponsor.

The cleanup effort covers the Ohio River and its tributaries, including the Allegheny, Monongahela, Youghiogheny, Cheat, and West Fork 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 clean for public use.

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“We are proud of our employees who joined community volunteers in River Sweep 2001 activities in Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, and Westmoreland counties in Pennsylvania and in Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, 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 2001 an overwhelming success.”

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.