

Guy A. Fletcher
Corporate Communications
Phone: 301-790-6174
Media Hotline: 1-888-233-3583

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Allegheny Power's Maryland Customers
To Receive Lower Bills Through Earnings Sharing Credit**

Hagerstown, Md., Sept. 5, 2001 – Allegheny Power, the energy delivery company of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE), announced today that its Maryland customers will begin receiving an Earnings Sharing Credit on their electric bills starting Sept. 6. For a typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month, the bill will be reduced by \$1.22 per month.

The credit is the result of an agreement approved by the Maryland Public Service Commission where Allegheny Power agreed to share its 2000 earnings above a certain level with its customers. During 2000, the Company exceeded the targeted earnings level. As a result, 50 percent of the amount above the targeted earnings amount, or \$1.9 million, is being distributed to customers in the form of the Earnings Sharing Credit.

The credit is expected to remain on customers' bills through Dec. 31, 2001.

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.

-###-