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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy Awards \$30,000 TechConnect Grant to Westmar Middle School
Contribution to Purchase Computer Equipment for Classroom Instruction

Hagerstown, Md., October 22, 2001 – As part of its proud and enthusiastic commitment to communities, schools, and students, Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE) announced today the award of a \$30,000 TechConnect Classroom Technology Grant to Westmar Middle School. The TechConnect grant, which will be used to purchase computers, printers, servers, and other computer hardware, will assist the school in improving its technology programs in math and science.

“We are excited to announce the award of a TechConnect grant to Westmar Middle School,” says Victoria V. Schaff, Allegheny Energy’s Vice President, External Affairs. “This grant will benefit the students and staff of Westmar Middle School and will further our mission of enhancing educational technology programs in the communities we serve.”

Westmar Middle School was one of 10 schools selected to receive a 2001 TechConnect grant. Public and private schools, grades kindergarten through 12, in the Company’s service territory, which includes parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia, were eligible to apply for a TechConnect grant. More than 200 schools submitted grant proposals, which were evaluated by teams of educators and business leaders.

“We are elated beyond words and grateful to Allegheny Energy for making such a wonderful award possible,” says Timothy P. Scaletta, Principal, Westmar Middle School. “The TechConnect Grant benefits both current and future students and allows them to obtain heights that otherwise would have been impossible to reach.”

TechConnect is the cornerstone of Allegheny Energy’s Corporate Giving Program, which contributes annually to a wide variety of community needs, including local United Way agencies, volunteer fire companies, museums, and education. By supporting technology in schools, the Company can help provide communities with highly skilled and diverse employees and increase economic development opportunities.

To find out more about the TechConnect program, visit its web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com/techconnect.

Allegheny Energy, Inc. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Hagerstown, Md. It has 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 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 develops, owns, and operates electric generating facilities and supplies and trades energy and energy related commodities in selected domestic retail and wholesale markets; and *Allegheny Ventures*, which invests in and develops telecommunications and energy-related projects. For more information, visit our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.