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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Power asks FERC to delay PJM West Implementation

Greensburg, Pa., December 4, 2001 – Allegheny Power, the energy delivery business of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE), on December 3 requested that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) change the effective date for implementation of PJM West, allowing the Company to continue offering transmission service on its system in a reasonable fashion until a final order from FERC is issued. PJM West was scheduled to become operational on January 1, 2002.

“Our request in no way diminishes Allegheny’s commitment to the PJM West initiative,” stated Karl V. Pfirmann, Vice President, System Planning and Operations for Allegheny Power. “In fact, both parties—Allegheny Power and PJM Interconnection—were prepared to have PJM West fully operational and ready to manage Allegheny’s transmission assets beginning January 1.”

On July 11, 2001, FERC granted provisional status to PJM West. However, because a final order is still pending, Allegheny Power asked that the new effective date for PJM West be on the first day of the calendar month 30 days after the Commission issues its order.

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.

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