



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy donates to Monongahela River Senior Environmental Corps

Hagerstown, Md., December 17, 2001 – Allegheny Energy, through its Environmental Stewardship Fund, has donated \$2,500 to the Monongahela River Senior Environmental Corps to help purchase supplies and equipment for a volunteer water quality monitoring project. The donation is part of Allegheny Energy's ongoing commitment to environmental education, leadership, and stewardship for the enhancement of the region and its communities.

“The Senior Environmental Corps consists primarily of older adults who are committed to protecting the environment through monitoring the water of local streams and tributaries,” said Leslie Grenfell, Executive Director, Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc. “We are grateful to Allegheny Energy for this generous donation that will help us continue to do our part in preserving the environment by taking advantage of the experience of older adults.”

The Corps currently includes 10 senior volunteers, three student volunteers, and a technical advisor, Dr. Bob Vargo, a professor in the Earth Science Department of California University of Pennsylvania. Senior volunteers in the water monitoring project assess the chemical, physical, and biological health of the watershed and collect the results in an electronic database, which is accessible by watershed managers and others through the internet.

“Allegheny Energy strongly supports environmental projects such as this one that will improve and protect the quality of our watersheds,” said Pamela M. Pershing, the Company's Advisor, Strategic Environmental Management. “We are pleased to partner with the Senior Environmental Corps in this beneficial endeavor.”

Pennsylvania is the first state in the country to develop a statewide community-based organization that uses the leadership and resources of older adult volunteers to address local environmental concerns. For more information on the Senior Environmental Corps or for information on how you can become a volunteer for the watershed project, call 724-684-9000, extension 4433.

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 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 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.