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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Allegheny Energy supports Fairmont State College Foundation, Inc.**

**Hagerstown, Md., January 31, 2002** – Allegheny Energy, through its Corporate Giving Program, has donated \$5,000 to the Fairmont State College Foundation in Fairmont, W. Va. Since 1997, the Company has contributed \$22,000 to support scholarships and academic programs at the college, in addition to supporting capital campaigns.

Allegheny Energy frequently contributes to educational organizations like the Fairmont State College Foundation through its Corporate Giving Program. According to David Riggleman, Allegheny Energy’s General Manager, Local Government Affairs, the Company has contributed more than \$1.3 million this year to educational, human service, and cultural organizations.

“We are honored and grateful to have the ongoing support of Allegheny Energy,” says Mort Gamble, Vice President, Institutional Advancement, Fairmont State College, and Executive Director, Fairmont State College Foundation. “Fairmont State College and the foundation have had an important and productive partnership over the years with Allegheny Energy. We look forward to continuing to work together as we build opportunities for higher education.”

“Allegheny Energy is pleased to support the Fairmont State College Foundation in its efforts to provide educational opportunities to students,” says Riggleman. “By supporting the foundation, Allegheny Energy is assisting students in continuing their education beyond high school and in working toward their career goals.”

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](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com).