



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Allegheny Energy supports the Fayette County Children's Water Festival**

**Hagerstown, Md., March 6, 2002** – Allegheny Energy, through its Environmental Stewardship Fund, has donated \$500 to the Fayette County Children's Water Festival. 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. Allegheny's Hatfield's Ferry Power Station will also present information on power station water use during the festival.

"We greatly appreciate Allegheny Energy's support of our Children's Water Festival," said Heather Knupsky, Environmental Education Coordinator, Fayette County Conservation District. "Through a cooperative effort including government agencies, water suppliers, industry, and other groups, we are looking forward to providing informative exhibits and laboratory activities that will create an interactive learning opportunity for students in the county."

The Fayette County Children's Water Festival, held on March 5, is a one-day educational event designed to teach sixth grade students the basics of water. Through hands-on techniques, children learn the definitions of different water types; water's importance to all life; the role of the water cycle; the links between water, plants, wildlife, and soil; and the effects of human activities on water and nature.

"Allegheny Energy strongly supports environmental education as a key to preserving our natural resources, and we are looking forward to participating in the water festival," said Tom Seighman, Regional Director, Hatfield's Ferry Power Station. "We especially recognize the importance of environmental education for children who will someday become leaders in their communities."

Allegheny Energy is an integrated *Fortune* 500 energy company with a balanced portfolio of businesses, including Allegheny Energy Supply, a national energy merchant which owns and operates electric generating facilities and supplies energy and energy-related commodities in selected domestic retail and wholesale markets; Allegheny Power, which delivers low-cost, reliable electric and natural gas service to about three million people in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia; and a business segment offering fiber-optic and data services, energy procurement and management, and energy services. With headquarters in Hagerstown, Md., Allegheny Energy is included on the Standard and Poor's 500 index, the *Barron's* 500 list, and the *Forbes* "Platinum 400" list of America's best big companies. Information is available at [www.alleghenyenergy.com](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com).