



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy donates \$1,000 to the Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies

Hagerstown, Md., March 8, 2002 – Allegheny Energy, through its Environmental Stewardship and Community Relations programs, has donated \$1,000 to the Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies. 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.

“We greatly appreciate Allegheny Energy’s renewed support of the Discovering Wetlands environmental program for the 2001-2002 school year,” said Melodie Anderson-Smith, Director, Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies. “There was a time when the value of our nation’s wetlands was not well understood. Now we understand the enormous ways in which wetlands help our ecosystem.”

All sixth grade students in the Waynesboro Area School District, as well as many students from surrounding districts, participate in the Discovering Wetlands program annually. Institute instructors provide small group field study on the wetlands, including how to determine types, benefits, and criteria of wetlands. The term “wetland” describes, in a collective way, what are known as marshes, bogs, swamps, wet meadows, and shallow ponds.

“Allegheny Energy strongly supports environmental education as a key to preserving our natural resources,” said Pamela Pershing, the Company’s Advisor, Strategic Environmental Management. “We especially recognize the importance of environmental education for children who will 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.