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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Allegheny Energy Receives More Than 200 Proposals From Area Schools  
For \$300,000 in TechConnect Grants**

**Hagerstown, Md., May 17, 2002** – Allegheny Energy has received proposals from 224 area schools seeking a portion of the \$300,000 in TechConnect Classroom Technology Grants available this year. This fall, the Company will award 10 grants of \$30,000 each to schools to purchase needed computer hardware.

“We are excited that the second full year of our TechConnect Grant Program has generated such strong interest from schools in our five-state service area,” says Bryan G. Moorhouse, Allegheny Energy’s Vice President, State Affairs. “The number of grant proposals we received this year indicates that interest in our TechConnect Program is strong and growing.”

The TechConnect Grant Program, the cornerstone of the Company’s corporate contributions program, is aimed at enhancing students’ access to technology in classrooms throughout the region. Public and private schools, grades kindergarten through 12, are eligible to submit proposals for using the TechConnect grants to purchase computer hardware, printers, servers, and other equipment that will help enhance science and math instruction.

During the coming months, an independent committee of educators and business leaders will evaluate the grant proposals and select winning applicants.

Allegheny Energy has a legacy of supporting technology in schools, donating more than \$6 million in computers to area schools in the 1980s. In 2001, the first full year of the TechConnect Grant Program, the Company received 200 proposals and awarded 10 grants of \$30,000 each to schools in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. To find out more about TechConnect, visit its web site at [www.alleghenyenergy.com/Communities/TechConnect](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com/Communities/TechConnect).

With headquarters in Hagerstown, Md., 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. More information about the Company is available at [www.alleghenyenergy.com](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com).