



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Allegheny Energy employees clean area waterways during River Sweep 2002**

**Hagerstown, Md., June 15, 2002** – Allegheny Energy employees joined other community volunteers today to remove debris from area waterways during the 14th annual River Sweep – the largest organized waterway cleanup in the United States.

The project is part of Allegheny Energy’s ongoing commitment to environmental leadership and stewardship for the enhancement of the region and its communities. Allegheny Energy is a corporate sponsor in both Pennsylvania and West Virginia for the annual event.

At sites coordinated by Allegheny Energy, volunteers collected approximately 221 yards of large debris, including appliances, chairs, and a soft drink vending machine; another 993 bags of smaller trash; and 242 tires from waterways in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. More than 70 Allegheny Energy employees were among the 350 volunteers who participated in this year’s activities.

“For the past seven years, Allegheny Energy has been proud to sponsor this event that helps to keep our waterways clean, increases environmental awareness, and sets a tone for future environmental efforts,” said Pamela M. Pershing, Allegheny Energy’s Advisor, Strategic Environmental Management. “Allegheny Energy strongly supports this kind of beneficial environmental project which helps to preserve and protect the communities in which we live and serve.”

River Sweep is a project of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO), an interstate water quality control organization; environmental protection agencies; and natural resource agencies in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. This was Allegheny Energy’s seventh year as a River Sweep sponsor.

The cleanup effort covers the Ohio River and its tributaries, including the Allegheny, Monongahela, Youghiogheny, Cheat, and West Fork rivers. River Sweep encompasses more than 3,000 miles of shoreline from Pittsburgh, Pa., to Cairo, Ill., and is aimed at fostering greater environmental concern, improving the environment, and keeping rivers clean for public use.

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“We are proud of our employees who joined community volunteers in River Sweep 2002 activities in Allegheny, Armstrong, Fayette, and Westmoreland counties in Pennsylvania and in Harrison, Marion, Pleasants, Preston, and Wood counties in West Virginia,” Pershing said. “This event is a great benefit to the environment, and we commend the efforts of our employees, local watershed and non-profit organizations, environmental protection and natural resource agencies, and other volunteers who helped make River Sweep 2002 an overwhelming success.”

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).