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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Power Wins National Award for Emergency Assistance

Greensburg, Pa., January 10, 2002 – Allegheny Power, the energy delivery company of Allegheny Energy, Inc., received the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) Emergency Response Award for providing crucial assistance to Entergy when a severe ice storm crippled its service territory in December 2000. Alan J. Noia, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Allegheny Energy, accepted the award today during EEI’s annual winter meeting of chief executive officers in Scottsdale, Arizona.

“We are proud of our long-standing tradition of extending assistance to other companies in times of disaster,” says Allegheny Power President Jay S. Pifer. “We are especially proud of our employees, who always respond when the call for assistance comes in whether it is in our service area or to help another utility. Throughout the region, Allegheny Power employees are well known for the excellence of their work, and I am extremely pleased that their efforts are being recognized nationally by our industry.”

Although Allegheny Power is located a substantial distance away from Little Rock, Arkansas-based Entergy, in this unique emergency assistance effort, a crew of 50 Allegheny employees flew from Pittsburgh International Airport to Arkansas and worked for a week to help restore electric service to the more than 250,000 customers who lost power during the three-day ice storm. Allegheny personnel from service centers in Arnold and Washington in Pennsylvania; Clarksburg, Harrisville, Morgantown, Parkersburg, Weston-Buckhannon, and White Hall in West Virginia; and Marietta, Ohio, made the trip to Arkansas.

“Our first obligation is always to maintain and restore service to the customers in our service area, so mutual assistance requires a team effort, not only from the people who respond to the call for help but also from the people who stay behind,” states Pifer. “The tireless efforts of our dedicated personnel, who often work in grueling weather conditions, demonstrate their genuine concern for anyone who is out of power.”

Allegheny Power was awarded the EEI Emergency Response Assistance Award in 1999 for responding to mutual assistance requests of other utilities on 15 separate occasions.

Allegheny Power, an Allegheny Energy company, delivers low-cost electric service to three million people in parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. For more information about Allegheny, visit our web site at www.alleghenypower.com.