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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Power Works Around-The-Clock to Restore Electric Service to Customers

Service Already Restored to More Than 90,000 Customers

Hagerstown, Md., December 13, 2002 – Working around the clock, Allegheny Power has restored electric service to more than 90,000 customers who lost power as a result of Wednesday’s ice storm that severely affected parts of western Maryland, southcentral Pennsylvania, northern Virginia, and eastern West Virginia. More than 1,480 workers continue to work to restore service to the more than 36,000 customers who remain without electricity today. To assist with the restoration effort, the Company has enlisted the help of more than 1,000 additional workers from both other Allegheny Power locations and neighboring utility companies.

Major areas affected by the ice storm and the number of customers who remain without electric service as of 8 a.m. today include:

| Area | Number of Customers Without Electricity |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Maryland | |
| Frederick | 8,300 |
| Mt. Airy | 8,000 |
| Thurmont | 800 |
| Hagerstown | 1,600 |
| Pennsylvania | |
| McConnellsburg | 800 |
| Waynesboro | 600 |
| Virginia | |
| Luray | 800 |
| Winchester | 10,000 |
| West Virginia | |
| Augusta | 400 |
| Berkeley Springs | 100 |
| Martinsburg | 4,600 |

“Thanks to the hard work of our employees, the assistance that we’ve received from neighboring utility companies and lines service contractors, and the warming temperatures, we continue to make significant progress in our efforts to restore power to our customers,” said Jim Haney, Vice President of Allegheny Power. “With more than 1,480 workers in the region, we made significant progress yesterday, and we expect that to continue today. The majority of customers who remain out of power this morning will be back in service by midnight tonight; however, we expect that crews will be working well into the weekend before every customer’s power is restored. We are doing everything we can to restore service to our customers as quickly as possible, and we appreciate our customers’ understanding and patience during this time.”

Power outages from ice storms are the result of ice weighing down trees and tree limbs, causing limbs to break off and trees to lean into power lines. The fact that the ice is still on trees in some areas is creating additional damage, and new outages are occurring as the trees continue to break and fall.

Allegheny Power customers who see that their electrical or metering equipment is damaged or torn from the side of the house should contact a licensed electrician to make repairs. Allegheny Power cannot complete restoration work if the customer’s equipment is damaged or unsafe.

Allegheny Power customers who have not reported their power out should call the Company’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-Allegheny (1-800-255-3443) as soon as possible. The best way for customers to report a power outage is through Allegheny Power’s automated, outage-reporting system.

Allegheny Power, an Allegheny Energy company, delivers low-cost energy 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.