

Contact: Guy A. Fletcher  
Senior Writer  
Phone: 301-790-6174  
Media Hotline: 1-888-233-3583

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Allegheny Energy Accepting Proposals from Area Schools  
for \$300,000 in TechConnect Grants**

*Grant Applications Sent to More Than 1,500 Public and Private Schools*

**Hagerstown, Md., February 21, 2002** – Following the success of its introduction last year, Allegheny Energy’s TechConnect Grant Program is back. The Company recently sent more than 1,500 TechConnect grant application packages to public and private schools in its five-state service area, which includes parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. The \$300,000 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 focus on students’ science and math instruction. A committee of educators and business leaders will evaluate the grant proposals and select the grant recipients. Allegheny Energy will award 10 TechConnect grants of \$30,000 each to schools this fall.

“Last year, we were extremely pleased to receive 200 proposals from schools that were looking to improve students’ math and science instruction using our TechConnect grants,” says Bryan G. Moorhouse, Allegheny Energy’s Vice President, State Affairs. “Our grants will assist schools in advancing their technology programs and ensuring that students in our region have the tools and knowledge they need to succeed in higher education and beyond.”

In 2001, the first year of the program, the Company awarded 10 \$30,000 TechConnect grants to schools in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. This year’s deadline for submitting a grant application is April 30, 2002. To find out more about the TechConnect Program, visit its web site at [www.alleghenyenergy.com/Communities/TechConnect](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com/Communities/TechConnect).

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](http://www.alleghenyenergy.com).