



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy Names Thomas R. Gardner Vice President, Controller, and Chief Accounting Officer

Hagerstown, Md., October 9, 2003 – Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE) announced today that Thomas R. Gardner, a partner with the audit and consulting firm of Deloitte, has been named the Company's Vice President, Controller, and Chief Accounting Officer, effective October 13, 2003. Mr. Gardner will report to Jeffrey D. Serkes, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

"I am very pleased that Tom has joined our team. His financial systems and accounting background will be especially valuable to us as we continue to make progress in bringing our financial reporting current, improving our internal controls, and restoring the health of the Company," said Paul J. Evanson, Allegheny Energy's Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Gardner has been with Deloitte since 1997 and has worked with clients on finance transformation, including business strategy, cost control, and technology management. Since February, he has been part of the Deloitte team working with Allegheny Energy on its comprehensive financial review. Previously, he served in a variety of finance and technology positions with Alexander & Alexander Services Inc.

Mr. Gardner holds a Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in Finance from The George Washington University. He also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Baltimore.

Mr. Gardner replaces Ronald K. Clark, who has been serving as Vice President and Controller since June 2002. Mr. Clark will remain with the Company during a transition period.

“I want to thank Ron for his many contributions to our Company, especially his leadership through our recently completed comprehensive financial review,” Evanson said.

Allegheny Energy is an integrated energy company with a portfolio of businesses, including Allegheny Energy Supply, which owns and operates electric generating facilities and supplies energy and energy-related commodities; and Allegheny Power, which delivers low-cost, reliable electric and natural gas service to about four million people in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. More information about the Company is available at www.alleghenyenergy.com.

Certain statements contained herein constitute forward-looking statements with respect to Allegheny Energy, Inc. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause the actual results, performance, or achievements of Allegheny Energy to be materially different from any future results, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors may affect Allegheny Energy's operations, markets, products, services, prices, capital expenditures, development activities, and future plans. Such factors include, among others, the following: changes in general, economic, and business conditions; changes in the price of electricity and natural gas; changes in industry capacity; changes in technology; changes in financial and capital market conditions; changes in political and social conditions, deregulation activities and the movement toward competition in the states served by our operations; the effect of regulatory and legislative decisions; regulatory approvals and conditions; the loss of any significant customers; litigation; and changes in business strategy or business plans.