



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Employees at Allegheny Energy Supply's Pleasants and Willow Island Power Stations Honored with VPP Star Certification from OSHA

Hagerstown, Md., September 25, 2003 – Allegheny Energy Supply, a subsidiary of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE), announced today that employees at its Pleasants and Willow Island power stations, located near St. Marys, W.Va., were honored with Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star certification for superior workplace safety from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). VPP Star certification recognizes companies whose employees demonstrate a commitment to workplace safety and health beyond OSHA's standard requirements.

Pleasants and Willow Island employees formally received their VPP Star certification during a ceremony at each of the facilities earlier today. As a part of these ceremonies, OSHA representatives raised a flag at each of the power stations that officially designates Pleasants and Willow Island as VPP Star facilities.

"Receiving this certification is indicative of the commitment that Allegheny Energy has made to protecting the health and safety of its employees," said David C. Benson, Executive Vice President, Allegheny Energy Supply. "Our goal at Allegheny is not only to maintain the high level of safety that our employees have come to expect, but also to continually find ways to exceed it. I congratulate the employees at Pleasants and Willow Island power stations for making safety a priority and, consequently, for receiving this prestigious award."

According to OSHA, the Star Program recognizes leaders in occupational safety and health that are successfully protecting workers from death, injury, and illness by implementing comprehensive and effective safety and health programs. Facilities recommended for VPP Star Status are evaluated according to a rigid set of qualifications, including management leadership and employee involvement; worksite analysis; hazard prevention and control; and safety and health training.

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Pleasants and Willow Island's 253 employees, with the support of Allegheny Energy Supply's Safety, Health, & Training Team, worked for more than a year to be considered for this exclusive award that has only been achieved by less than one percent, or approximately 1,000 worksites, nationwide. The evaluation process is very rigorous and includes an on-site review by a team of OSHA representatives.

"It took a tremendous amount of hard work and cooperation among management, employees, and OSHA to achieve VPP Star Status, and Pleasants and Willow Island employees should be proud of what they have accomplished," said Fred A. Jiles, Jr., Regional Director, Pleasants/Willow Island Region. "But receiving this prestigious award from OSHA is only the beginning. We will continually strive to maintain this level of excellence by finding new ways to protect employees and make sure they go home safely to their families every day."

Allegheny Energy Supply has been participating in OSHA's VPP since November 2000. Earlier this year, employees at Allegheny Energy Supply's Lincoln Generating Facility, located in Manhattan, Ill., made their station the first Allegheny Energy Supply facility to receive VPP Star certification. Employees at Allegheny Energy's Fort Martin and Albright power stations, located near Morgantown, W.Va., and Albright, W.Va., respectively, were also honored with this distinction, and employees at Harrison Power Station, located in Haywood, W.Va., were recently recommended by OSHA to receive VPP Star Status and expect to know if their facility has been approved shortly. Several other Allegheny Energy facilities are in various stages of the process.

With headquarters in Hagerstown, Md., Allegheny Energy is an integrated energy company with a balanced 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 three million people in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. More information about the Company is available at www.alleghenyenergy.com.