



NEWS RELEASE

For Media, contact:

Janice D. Lantz
Manager, Corporate Communications
800 Cabin Hill Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601
Phone: (724) 838-6984
Media Hotline: 1-888-233-3583
E-Mail: jlantz@alleghenyenergy.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy Names Michelle S. Morris Vice President, Corporate Communications

Hagerstown, Md., February 17, 2004 – Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE) announced today that Michelle S. Morris has been named Vice President, Corporate Communications, for the Company. Ms. Morris will report to Paul J. Evanson, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer.

“I am pleased to welcome Michelle to the Allegheny leadership team. Michelle’s extensive experience in communications and public affairs, especially her skills in building strategic communications programs, will be a tremendous asset as we face the many challenges ahead and reach out to our diverse stakeholders,” said Mr. Evanson.

Ms. Morris joined Allegheny from Capital One Financial in McLean, Va., where she handled strategic communications for the Global Finance organization and advised the Chief Financial Officer. Prior to that, she worked in both global policy and workforce communications at IBM. She has also worked for the Engelhard Corporation and Dow Chemical, handling strategic planning, executive, crisis/issues and change communications. In addition, she has done grassroots and national issues campaigns for Edelman Public Relations Worldwide.

She graduated with a double major in English and political science from Albion College in Michigan, where she received the President Gerald R. Ford Leadership Award.

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

-###-