



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Employees at Allegheny Energy Supply's Wheatland Generating Facility Honored with VPP Star Certification from IOSHA

Greensburg, Pa., May 17, 2004 – Allegheny Energy Supply, a subsidiary of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE), announced today that employees at its Wheatland Generating Facility, located near Vincennes, Ind., were honored with Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star certification for superior workplace safety from the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Division (IOSHA). IOSHA is a division of the Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL). VPP Star certification recognizes companies whose employees demonstrate a commitment to workplace safety and health beyond IOSHA's standard requirements.

Wheatland employees formally received their VPP Star certification during a ceremony at the facility earlier today. As a part of this ceremony, IDOL representatives raised a flag at the station that officially designates Wheatland Generating Facility as a VPP Star facility.

“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, 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 Wheatland Generating Facility for making safety a priority, and consequently, for receiving this prestigious award.”

The Indiana VPP is designed to recognize and promote safety and health management programs in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). As with OSHA's VPP, the Indiana program establishes a cooperative relationship between management, labor and IDOL. Facilities recommended for VPP Star Status are evaluated according to a rigid set of qualifications, including management commitment and employee participation; worksite analysis; hazard prevention and control; and safety and health training.

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Wheatland's five 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 VPP award that has only been achieved by less than one percent, or approximately 1,100 worksites, nationwide. The evaluation process is very rigorous and includes an on-site review by representatives from IDOL.

"It took a tremendous amount of hard work and cooperation among management, employees and IDOL to achieve VPP Star Status, and Wheatland employees should be proud of what they have accomplished," said Gregory F. VonFeldt, CT Plant Manager, Wheatland and Gleason Generating Facilities. "But receiving this prestigious award from IDOL is only the beginning. We will strive to maintain the high level of excellence that we have been honored for today, and we look forward to continuing to work with IDOL to find new ways to protect our employees and make sure they go home safely to their families every day."

Although the Wheatland Generating Facility is the first Allegheny Energy Supply facility to receive VPP Star certification from IOSHA, Allegheny has been participating in the OSHA VPP program since November 2000 and has had five facilities in West Virginia and one in Illinois achieve VPP Star certification. Several other Allegheny Energy facilities throughout our service territory are in various stages of the VPP Star certification process.

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.