



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Power Promotes Energy Efficiency through Loan Program

GREENSBURG, Pa., December 16, 2005 – Residential customers in Allegheny Power’s Pennsylvania service territory can now get some financial assistance for energy-efficient home improvements through the Keystone Home Energy Loan Program (HELP). Sponsored by the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund and AFC First Financial Corporation, in conjunction with Allegheny Power, Keystone HELP offers low interest rates and extended payment terms for qualifying energy-efficient improvement projects.

To qualify, customers must live in Allegheny’s 24-county Pennsylvania territory. The low-interest loan program provides funds to purchase and install “Energy Star” products such as energy efficient residential windows, insulation and heating and air conditioning systems. Installation must be performed by a contractor or dealer that has been pre-qualified by AFC First Financial.

“We are excited to be working with the Sustainable Energy Fund to promote energy efficiency among residential customers in the West Penn market region,” said Ronald A. Magnuson, Vice President of Customer Services for Allegheny Power. “Keystone HELP is currently only available to Allegheny Power customers in Pennsylvania. However, the Sustainable Energy Fund’s program has been so well received that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania may rollout a similar initiative later this month.”

Loan amounts range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. The current program offers zero-percent interest rates for six months, or fixed-rate monthly payment plans for either 5- or 10-year terms with no pre-payment penalty. The application process is fast and simple, and there are no hidden costs or fees to the customer, contractor or dealer.

Keystone HELP is available to all Allegheny customers in Pennsylvania – regardless of income. For more details about the program, including a list of certified contractors and dealers, visit the program’s web site at www.keystonehelp.com or call 1-888-AFC-FIRST (1-888-232-3477).

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The WPPSEF is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting energy efficiency in the West Penn Power (doing business as Allegheny Power) service area. More information about the organization is available at www.wppsef.org.

Allegheny Power

Allegheny Power, an Allegheny Energy company, delivers low-cost energy to three million people in parts of Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. For more information about Allegheny, visit our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.