



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy Holds Annual Meeting of Stockholders

NEW YORK, May 12, 2005 – In remarks today at the Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE: AYE) Annual Meeting, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer Paul J. Evanson reported marked progress in strengthening the company's financial condition and said that Allegheny Energy has the potential to become one of the nation's premier electric utilities.

"I am very proud of the progress we have made in such a short time," said Evanson, noting that the company has returned to profitability, reduced debt, established effective internal controls for financial reporting and launched an initiative to become a high-performance organization.

At the annual meeting, stockholders elected the following directors to one-year terms: H. Furlong Baldwin, Eleanor Baum, Paul J. Evanson, Cyrus F. Freidheim Jr., Julia L. Johnson, Ted J. Kleisner, Steven H. Rice, Gunnar E. Sarsten and Michael H. Sutton.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, was reappointed as Allegheny Energy's independent registered public accounting firm for 2005.

As recommended by the Board of Directors, stockholders rejected four shareholder proposals: a proposal requiring management to retain stock, a proposal regarding an independent board chairman, a proposal to further limit the number of directorships held by Allegheny Energy board members and a proposal regarding performance-based options.

Allegheny Energy

Headquartered in Greensburg, Pa., Allegheny Energy is an investor-owned utility consisting of two major businesses. Allegheny Energy Supply owns and operates electric generating facilities, and Allegheny Power delivers low-cost, reliable electric service to customers in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia and Ohio. For more information, visit our Web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

In addition to historical information, this release contains a number of "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as anticipate, expect, project, intend, plan, believe, and words and terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future plans, actions, or events identify forward-looking statements. These include statements with respect to: regulation and the status of retail generation service supply competition in states served by Allegheny Energy's distribution business, Allegheny Power; financing plans; demand for energy and the cost and availability of raw materials, including coal; provider-of-

last-resort and power supply contracts; results of litigation; results of operations; internal controls and procedures; capital expenditures; status and condition of plants and equipment; regulatory matters; and accounting issues. Forward-looking statements involve estimates, expectations and projections and, as a result, are subject to risks and uncertainties. There can be no assurance that actual results will not materially differ from expectations. Actual results have varied materially and unpredictably from past expectations. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include, among others, the following: changes in the price of power and fuel for electric generation; general economic and business conditions; changes in access to capital markets; complications or other factors that render it difficult or impossible to obtain necessary lender consents or regulatory authorizations on a timely basis; environmental regulations; the results of regulatory proceedings, including proceedings related to rates; changes in industry capacity, development and other activities by Allegheny Energy's competitors; changes in the weather and other natural phenomena; changes in the underlying inputs and assumptions, including market conditions used to estimate the fair values of commodity contracts; changes in laws and regulations applicable to Allegheny Energy, its markets or its activities; the loss of any significant customers or suppliers; dependence on other electric transmission and gas transportation systems and their constraints or availability; changes in PJM, including changes to participant rules and tariffs; the effect of accounting policies issued periodically by accounting standard-setting bodies; and the continuing effects of global instability, terrorism and war. Additional risks and uncertainties are identified and discussed in Allegheny Energy's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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