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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Allegheny Power Ranks Number One in Customer Satisfaction
in the Eastern United States**

GREENSBURG, Pa., July 20, 2006 – Residential customers have rated Allegheny Power, the electric delivery subsidiary of Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE:AYE), one of the top providers of electricity in the eastern United States.

Allegheny Power tied for first in the East and ranked in the top quartile nationally, according to the 2006 Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study conducted by J.D. Power and Associates. Since J.D. Power and Associates first began surveying utility customers in 1999, Allegheny has ranked second or higher in the East six times.

The 2006 study includes 76 utilities nationwide and is based on telephone interviews from nearly 27,000 residential customers throughout the United States. It ranks customer satisfaction according to the following criteria: power quality and reliability; company image; price and value; communications; billing and payment; and customer service.

“Allegheny Power is dedicated to being a leading energy delivery company, and we are pleased to rank among the national leaders in customer satisfaction,” said David E. Flitman, President, Allegheny Power. “Our employees strive to exceed customer expectations, and are continually exploring new ways to improve the service we provide to meet the changing needs of our customers.”

Allegheny’s strong performance in the J.D. Power and Associates study follows a similar ranking in the University of Michigan’s American Customer Satisfaction Index, which was released in May 2006.

Headquartered in Westlake Village, Calif., J.D. Power and Associates is a global marketing information services firm operating in key business sectors including market research, forecasting, consulting, training and customer satisfaction. The firm’s quality and satisfaction measurements are based on responses from millions of consumers annually.

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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 and Virginia. For more information, visit our web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.

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