



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Allegheny Energy Holds Groundbreaking for Transmission Headquarters Building

Greensburg, Pa., April 16, 2009--Allegheny Energy, Inc. (NYSE:AYE) today held a groundbreaking event at the site of its new Transmission Operations Headquarters in Fairmont, W.Va. The new facility will serve as the center for Allegheny's multi-state transmission functions and will bring about 150 new jobs to Fairmont.

Congressman Alan B. Mollohan and Governor Joe Manchin III joined local officials, business people and Allegheny representatives at the event. Omni Associates of Fairmont introduced the new building's design. March-Westin, Inc. of Morgantown, W.Va. will be the general contractor for the new environmentally-friendly building.

"This building is an important milestone in the development of our transmission business," stated Paul J. Evanson, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Allegheny Energy. "With our new projects, TrAIL and PATH, along with more than 4,600 miles of transmission lines already in place, we need a facility that is specifically designed to meet the needs of our transmission business."

Site preparation work for the facility is underway, with completion expected in mid-2011. The building will total about 148,000 square feet and will contain a Transmission Operations Control Center, data center and approximately 85,000 square feet of Class A office space. As a demonstration of the company's environmental commitment, the new building will be certified under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System. The LEED system provides standards for environmentally sustainable construction.

Allegheny Energy

Headquartered in Greensburg, Pa., Allegheny Energy is an investor-owned electric utility with total annual revenues of over \$3 billion and more than 4,000 employees. The company owns and operates generating facilities and delivers low-cost, reliable electric service to 1.6 million customers in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia. For more information, visit our Web site at www.alleghenyenergy.com.

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