

PPL and Pennsylvania Department of Education To Host Annual High School Debate Championship

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Six teams from four Pennsylvania high schools will compete April 19 in Harrisburg in the final round of the 2001 High School Debates, co-hosted by PPL.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19981015/PHTH025>)

Two teams each from Meyers (Wilkes-Barre) and Elk Lake and teams from Susquehanna Community and Lake Wallenpaupack will debate a water quality issue in the House of Representatives' chambers in the Pennsylvania Capitol.

"PPL has supported these debates to promote education and environmental awareness, and stimulate young minds by presenting high school students with a complex issue to analyze and debate," said Larry Sparta, PPL's education relations director. "We're proud to provide this hands-on learning opportunity."

Teams will debate whether sources of water pollution that can't be traced to a specific location, such as farm fields, should be regulated to the same extent as sources originating at a distinct location, such as an industrial site.

PPL (NYSE: PPL) and the Pennsylvania Department of Education sponsor the annual event. Teams start preparing at the beginning of the school year and then face off in a preliminary competition. Six teams are selected to advance to the finals.

Sparta and Dr. Patricia Vathis, director of the state Department of Education's Office of Environment and Ecology, will give opening remarks at 9:15 a.m.

This year's keynote address, "Success in the 21st Century," will be given at about 2 p.m. by U.S. Rep. Todd Platts, R-York.

The teams will open the first round at 9:45 a.m., the second round will begin at 11 a.m. and the final round starts at 1:15 p.m. The winner and runner-up teams will receive trophies and medals. A most valuable debater also will be named, and all participants will receive certificates from PPL.

About 50 judges from business, industry, government and education will select the winner and runner-up teams.

For more information, call Sparta at 610-774-6914 or write him at lcsparta@pplweb.com.

PPL Corp., headquartered in Allentown, Pa., generates electricity at power plants in Pennsylvania, Maine and Montana; markets wholesale or retail energy in 42 U.S. states and Canada; and delivers electricity to nearly 6 million customers in Pennsylvania, in the United Kingdom and in Latin America.

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