

**FrederickNewsPost.com****PATH profits**

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The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, has guaranteed Allegheny Energy an unheard-of 14.3 percent rate of return on every dollar spent to construct PATH. Even the Maryland Public Service Commission was amazed at such a sweet deal for Allegheny. FERC will raise rates, which means you and I will pay higher electricity rates to subsidize Allegheny Energy. Ratepayers will be charged more than \$2 billion to pay for PATH.

Imagine how motivated you would be to obtain from a bank a guaranteed 14.3 percent rate of return on your money. Allegheny Energy is so motivated to make a 14.3 percent profit that they use the old scare tactics: "Your lights will go out and your grandmother's respirator will fail" if PATH is not built.

But the Department of Energy statistics on electricity usage show that demand is down and not expected to increase significantly for over a decade. Clearly, the real reason Allegheny is pushing PATH is the 14.3 percent rate of return. Allegheny stands to make a huge profit at ratepayers' expense.

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