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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER CO INC

Form 11-K

June 27, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
(Full title of the plan)

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY, INC.
1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215
(Name of issuer of the securities held
pursuant to the plan and the address
of its principal executive office)

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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Employee Benefit Trusts Committee has duly caused this annual report to be signed by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

By: /s/ J. Steven Kiser

J. Steven Kiser, Secretary
Employee Benefit Trusts Committee

Date: June 25, 2002

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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ASSETS:

Investments:

Group Annuity, Bank Investment and

Other Fixed Income Contracts	\$578,126,683		\$578,
American Electric Power Company, Inc. -			
Common Stock	375,886,712	\$103,093,336	478,
Registered Investment Company Funds	702,992,316		702,
Fidelity Institutional Cash Portfolio Fund	20,533,760	4,737,152	25,
Participant Loans	15,746,700		15,

Total Investments	1,693,286,171	107,830,488	1,801,
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Other Receivables		17,695	
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NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$1,693,286,171	\$107,848,183	\$1,801,
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See notes to financial statements.

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

As Of December 31,2000

ASSETS:

Investments:

Group Annuity, Bank Investment and

Other Fixed Income Contracts	\$503,673,194		\$5
American Electric Power Company, Inc. -			
Common Stock	411,360,904	\$94,396,021	5
Registered Investment Company Funds	844,269,352		8
Fidelity Institutional Cash Portfolio Fund	16,460,689	3,719,060	
Participant Loans	16,722,513		

Total Investments	1,792,486,652	98,115,081	1,8
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Other Receivables		2,371,909	
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NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$1,792,486,652	\$100,486,990	\$1,8
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See notes to financial statements.

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

	Year Ended December 31, 200	
	Participant Directed	Non-Particip Directed
NET INVESTMENT INCOME:		
Interest	\$32,752,473	
Dividends	22,561,653	13,732,926
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments	(168,854,012)	5,355,746
Total Net Investment Income (Loss)	(113,539,886)	19,088,672
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	149,244	(149,244)
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER QUALIFIED PLANS	2,907,877	
CONTRIBUTIONS:		
Participants	97,738,982	
Employer	14,809,841	24,473,112
Total Contributions	112,548,823	24,473,112
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS	(101,266,539)	(36,051,347)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	(99,200,481)	7,361,193
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,792,486,652	100,486,990
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS END OF YEAR	\$1,693,286,171	\$107,848,183

See notes to financial statements

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM

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RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

	Year Ended December 31, 20	
	Participant Directed	Non-Parti Directed
NET INVESTMENT INCOME:		
Interest	\$31,427,553	
Dividends	85,887,496	9,449,482
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments	(42,448,846)	13,048,590
Total Net Investment Income (Loss)	74,866,203	22,498,072
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	68,951	(68,951)
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER QUALIFIED PLANS		
CONTRIBUTIONS:		
Participants	72,051,756	
Employer	7,831,419	13,059,761
Total Contributions	79,883,175	13,059,761
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PARTICIPANTS	(152,947,741)	(6,492,640)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	1,870,588	28,996,242
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,790,616,064	71,490,748
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS END OF YEAR	\$1,792,486,652	\$100,486,990

See notes to financial statements

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000

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1. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of the American Electric Power System Retirement Savings Plan (the "Plan") is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan documents for more complete information.

The Plan became effective and commenced operations on January 1, 1978. Effective August 1, 1998, employees were eligible to become participants in the Plan on the first day of employment. Prior to August 1, 1998, employees who had completed 6 months of service, as defined in the Plan, could participate in the Plan. Participants may contribute, through payroll deductions, up to 6% of their regular compensation in 1% increments as a matched contribution to the Plan. Effective January 1, 2001, the employer contributes an amount equal to 75% of participants' matched contributions. Prior to January 1, 2001, the employer contributed an amount equal to 50% of the participants' matched contributions. Employees who have elected to make a 6% matched contribution to the Plan may contribute up to an additional 14% of their base compensation in 1% increments as an unmatched contribution. Effective January 1, 2001, the definition of pay was expanded to include shift differential, Sunday premium pay, incentive pay and overtime pay, in addition to base pay. At termination, employees will have the option of rolling a lump sum payment from the AEP System Retirement Plan into the AEP System Retirement Savings Plan. Highly compensated employees are currently limited to an additional 10% of their base compensation. Additionally, employees may direct that their contributions be made on an after-tax basis and/or a pre-tax basis in accordance with Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code). An employee's taxable income for federal income tax is reduced by any pre-tax contribution. Certain restrictions, as defined by the Code, are placed on the availability of those pre-tax accumulated funds.

Effective June 15, 2000, American Electric Power Company Inc. (the Company) entered into a merger with Central and South West Corporation (CSW). The merger agreement provided that the CSW qualified plans will remain in effect until July 1, 2002. The Company anticipates that the Central and South West Corporation Retirement Savings Plan will merge with the Plan on January 1, 2003.

American Electric Power Service Corporation is the Plan Administrator (Plan Administrator). Fidelity Management Trust Company (Fidelity) is the Trustee for all funds except the Fixed Income Fund, and is the Recordkeeper for the entire Plan. Key Trust Company of Ohio, N.A. (Key Trust) is Trustee for the Fixed Income Fund.

Employer contributions are invested solely in the AEP Stock Fund. Participants may direct the investment of their contributions to any combination of the following funds:

The Fixed Income Fund, the objective of which is to invest in contracts with various insurance and financial institutions at varying annual interest rates, maturing over periods approximating five years or less and temporary investments in the Employee Benefits Money Market Fund and the Fidelity Institutional Cash Portfolio.

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The AEP Stock Fund, the objective of which is to invest in American Electric Power Company, Inc. (AEP) common stock and temporary investments in the Fidelity Institutional Cash Portfolio Money Market Fund.

The Fidelity Puritan Fund, the objective of which is to invest in a broadly diversified portfolio of domestic and foreign common stocks, and preferred stocks and bonds, including lower-quality, high-yield debt securities. The prospectus for the Puritan Fund indicates that the Puritan Fund is a growth and income fund.

The Fidelity OTC Portfolio, the objective of which is to invest in common stocks, preferred stocks, securities convertible into common stocks, and debt securities that are traded on the over-the-counter (OTC) securities market. The prospectus for the OTC Portfolio indicates that the OTC Portfolio is a growth fund.

The Fidelity Overseas Fund, the objective of which is to invest in foreign securities, including common stocks and securities convertible into common stocks, as well as debt instruments. The prospectus for the Overseas Fund indicates that the Overseas Fund is an international growth fund.

The Fidelity Blue Chip Growth Fund, the objective of which is to invest in a diversified portfolio of common stocks of well-known and established domestic and foreign companies. The prospectus for the Blue Chip Growth Fund indicates that the Blue Chip Growth Fund is a growth fund.

The Fidelity Equity Income Fund, the objective of which is to seek reasonable income and also to consider the potential for capital appreciation. The fund seeks a yield that exceeds the yield on the securities comprising the Standard and Poor's 500 index and normally invests at least 65% of its total assets in income-producing equity securities, while potentially investing in other types of equity securities and debt securities, including lower-quality debt securities.

The Fidelity Low-Priced Stock Fund, the objective of which is to seek capital appreciation by normally investing at least 65% of total assets in low-priced common stocks (\$35 or less at time of purchase), which can lead to investments in small and medium-sized companies.

The Fidelity Freedom Income Fund, the objective of which is to seek high current income and, secondarily, to seek capital appreciation. The fund invests in a combination of Fidelity equity, fixed-income, and money market funds (underlying Fidelity Funds) and allocates its assets among these funds according to a stable asset allocation strategy designed for investors already in retirement.

The Fidelity Freedom 2000 Fund, the objective of which is to seek high total return, by investing in a combination of Fidelity equity, fixed-income, and money market funds (underlying Fidelity funds) and allocating its assets among these funds according to an asset allocation strategy that becomes increasingly conservative as Freedom 2000 approaches

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its target retirement date. Targeted to investors expected to retire around the year 2000.

The Fidelity Freedom 2010 Fund, the objective of which is to seek high total return, by investing in a combination of Fidelity equity, fixed-income, and money market funds (underlying Fidelity funds) and allocating its assets among these funds according to an asset allocation strategy that becomes increasingly conservative as Freedom 2010 approaches its target retirement date. Targeted to investors expected to retire around the year 2010.

The Fidelity Freedom 2020 Fund, the objective of which is to seek high total return, by investing in a combination of Fidelity equity, fixed-income, and money market funds (underlying Fidelity funds) and allocating its assets among these funds according to an asset allocation strategy that becomes increasingly conservative as Freedom 2020 approaches its target retirement date. Targeted to investors expected to retire around the year 2020.

The Fidelity Freedom 2030 Fund, the objective of which is to seek high total return, by investing in a combination of Fidelity equity, fixed-income, and money market funds (underlying Fidelity funds) and allocating its assets among these funds according to an asset allocation strategy that becomes increasingly conservative as Freedom 2030 approaches its target retirement date. Targeted to investors expected to retire around the year 2030.

The Fidelity Freedom 2040 Fund, the objective of which is to seek high total return, by investing in a combination of Fidelity equity, fixed-income, and money market funds (underlying Fidelity funds) and allocating its assets among these funds according to an asset allocation strategy that becomes increasingly conservative as Freedom 2040 approaches its target retirement date. Targeted to investors expected to retire around the year 2040.

The Fidelity Spartan U.S. Equity Index Portfolio, the objective of which is to invest in a group of common stocks. The prospectus for the Spartan U.S. Equity Index Portfolio indicates that the Spartan U.S. Equity Index Portfolio is a growth and income fund which is designed to approximate the composition and total return of the S&P 500.

Participants may transfer the value of their own cumulative contributions, in any whole percentage or dollar amount, among investments, change their investment elections, and change their contribution percentage as often as they like. Effective January 1, 2001, except for their pre-tax contributions, participants may make an unlimited number of withdrawals of their interest in the Plan, including company matching contributions which are immediately vested. Pre-tax contributions are not eligible for withdrawal by participants not yet age 59-1/2, except under hardship as defined by the Plan. Participants age 50 and over may transfer a portion or all of the value of their employer contributions from the AEP Stock Fund, as often as

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they like.

Participants may borrow from their savings plan accounts, a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their account balance. Loan terms range from six months to 54 months, or any monthly increment in-between. The loan period cannot extend beyond the date that the participant reaches age 70-1/2. Interest rates, fixed for the life of the loan, are calculated by adding 1% to the prime rate, as reported in the Eastern edition of the Wall Street Journal, in effect as of the first business day of the calendar quarter in which the loan is taken. Prior to April 1, 2000, there was a one-time loan processing fee of \$35 and a loan maintenance fee of \$3.75 per quarter. On April 1, 2000, loan fees were eliminated. Active employees make principal and interest payments through payroll deductions. Retirees/surviving spouses make monthly payments using a coupon book.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Investments have been recorded based on the trade-date and are reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits at fair value or contract value. The AEP Stock Fund investments are valued at year-end quoted closing prices. The year-end valuations for the various Fidelity funds are based on the closing market prices for the underlying securities as provided by the Trustee. The Fixed Income Fund contracts are valued at book value which is equal to cost plus interest, as the contracts are fully benefit responsive.

Dividends and interest income are recorded as earned. These amounts are reinvested by the Trustees in the same funds which generated such income. Investment management fees are accounted for as a reduction in net investment income. All other Plan administration expenses are paid by the employer with the exception of per transaction charges for withdrawals and "minimum required distributions" which are borne by the participants.

Distributions are recorded when paid. There were no amounts due to participants who requested distributions from the Plan for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. INVESTMENT CONTRACT VALUATION

The Plan has a fixed income fund with Key Trust as Trustee, which invests primarily in fully benefit responsive investment contracts. Key Trust maintains the assets in a custodian account. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for

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Plan withdrawals (credited interest rates ranged from 7.53% to 2.21% for 2001 and from 7.53% to 2.21% for 2000). The average yield was 5.20% and 5.82% for fiscal years ending December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The investment is recorded in the financial statements based on the contract value of the underlying investment contracts, which approximates fair value, as reported to the Plan by Fidelity. Contract value represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less withdrawals.

4. INVESTMENTS EXCEEDING 5% OF THE PLAN NET ASSETS

Investments exceeding five percent of net assets were:

	Fair Value	
	December 31, 2001	2000
AEP Common Stock - Participant Directed . . .	\$375,886,712	\$411,360,904
AEP Common Stock - Non-Participant Directed .	\$103,093,336	\$ 94,396,021
Fidelity Spartan U.S. Equity Index Portfolio.	\$227,166,030	\$280,004,061
Fidelity Blue Chip Growth Fund.	\$186,856,235	\$234,002,496
Fidelity OTC Portfolio.	\$124,351,349	\$169,033,714

5. NET DEPRECIATION IN FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS

During 2001 and 2000, the Plan's investments (including investments bought, sold as well as held during the year) depreciated in value by \$(163,498,266) and \$(29,400,256), respectively, as follows:

	December 31, 2001	2000
Investments at Fair Value:		
American Electric Power Company, Inc. - Common Stock.	\$ (31,587,409)	\$ 161,293,077
Investments at Estimated Fair Value:		
Registered Investment Companies and Group Annuity, Bank Investment and Other Fixed Income Contracts.	(131,910,857)	(190,693,333)
 Total	 \$ (163,498,266)	 \$ (29,400,256)

6. FEDERAL INCOME TAX

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The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has determined that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 401(a) of the Code; therefore, the Plan is exempt from federal income tax pursuant to Section 501(a) of the Code.

The Plan obtained its latest determination letter on November 13, 1997, in which the IRS stated that the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code.

Under current income tax laws and regulations, participants are not subject to federal income tax on the employer contributions to their accounts or on the accumulated earnings on employee and employer contributions until such amounts are distributed to participants. Employees have the option to make contributions to the Plan on a pre-tax basis, in which case federal income tax is deferred until such amounts are distributed.

7. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants remain 100 percent vested in their accounts.

8. RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Fidelity Investments. Fidelity Investments is the trustee as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Effective March 1, 2002, participants of any age may direct the investment of a portion or all of the value of the existing employer contributions in the AEP Stock Fund. Also, the company match contribution will be allocated according to the employee's other contribution investment elections.

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE I

ASSETS HELD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2001

	NUMBER OF SHARES/UNITS	FAIR/CONTRACT VALUE	COST
THE FIXED INCOME FUND:			
Fixed Income Contract - AIG Life Insurance Company			

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7.53% effective annual yield to		
July 31, 2003.	22,996,966	22,996,966
Group Annuity Contract -		
J.P. Morgan #2		
5.82% effective annual yield to		
July 25, 2005.	17,191,654	17,191,654
Group Annuity Contract -		
Metropolitan Life Inc. Company		
4.58% effective annual yield to		
April 30, 2005	61,052,537	61,052,537
Group Annuity Contract -		
Monumental Life Insurance Company		
5.65% effective annual yield to		
January 30, 2004	15,351,903	15,351,903
Group Annuity Contract -		
National Westminster Bank		
2.21% effective annual yield to		
October 31, 2005	24,415,203	24,415,203
Group Annuity Contract -		
New York Life Insurance Company		
5.83% effective annual yield to		
January 31, 2003	14,610,321	14,610,321
Group Annuity Contract -		
New York Life Insurance Company		
5.44% effective annual yield to		
January 30, 2004	15,339,021	15,339,021
Fixed Income Contract -		
Norwest Bank Minnesota		
variable annual yield with an		
indeterminate maturity date.	15,933,186	15,933,186
Group Annuity Contract -		
Ohio National Life Insurance Company		
5.80% effective annual yield to		
October 7, 2002.	35,331,596	35,331,596
Group Annuity Contract -		
Principle Mutual Life		
6.00% effective annual yield to		
October 31, 2003	42,385,360	42,385,360
Group Annuity Contract -		
Protective Life Insurance Company		
5.95% effective annual yield to		
January 31, 2002	33,847,513	33,847,513
Group Annuity Contract -		
Protective Life Insurance Company		
6.39% effective annual yield to		
April 30, 2004	10,583,177	10,583,177
Group Annuity Contract -		
Prudential Insurance Company America		
6.00% effective annual yield to		
indeterminate maturity date.	10,545,988	10,545,988

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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE I

ASSETS HELD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2001 (Continued)

	NUMBER OF SHARES/UNITS	FAIR/CONTRACT VALUE	COST
THE FIXED INCOME FUND (Continued)			
Group Annuity Contract - Rabobank Nederland variable annual yield with an indeterminate maturity date.		59,597,536	59,597,536
Group Annuity Contract - Rabobank Nederland variable annual yield with an indeterminate maturity date.		59,595,777	59,595,777
Group Annuity Contract - Security Life of Denver Insurance Company 6.60% effective annual yield to August 3, 2004		29,170,074	29,170,074
Group Annuity Contract - State Street Bank & Trust Company 6.62% effective annual yield to indeterminate maturity date.		52,119,275	52,119,275
Group Annuity Contract - Transamerica Life & Annuity variable annual yield with an indeterminate maturity date.		58,059,596	58,059,596
Subtotal.		578,126,683	578,126,683
Fidelity Institutional Cash Portfolio Fund	20,533,760 Units	20,533,760	20,533,760
TOTAL - THE FIXED INCOME FUND		\$ 598,660,443	\$ 598,660,443

THE AEP STOCK FUND:

American Electric Power Company, Inc. Common Stock \$6.50 par value	11,003,477 Shares	\$ 478,980,048	\$
354,071,496 Fidelity Institutional Cash Portfolio Fund	4,737,152 Units	4,737,152	4,737,152
TOTAL - THE AEP STOCK FUND.		\$ 483,717,200	\$ 358,808,648

REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY:

The Fidelity Blue Chip Growth Fund	4,351,566 Units	\$ 186,856,235	\$ 184,350,826
The Fidelity Equity Income Fund.	160,939 Units	7,848,999	8,250,038
The Fidelity Freedom 2000 Fund	456,122 Units	5,254,523	5,749,164
The Fidelity Freedom 2010 Fund	1,676,844 Units	21,145,000	24,269,808
The Fidelity Freedom 2020 Fund	1,588,092 Units	19,978,195	24,505,243
The Fidelity Freedom 2030 Fund	304,343 Units	3,822,545	4,701,343
The Fidelity Freedom 2040 Fund	28,137 Units	207,933	225,292
The Fidelity Freedom Income Fund	918,148 Units	10,035,356	10,366,437
The Fidelity Low-Priced Stock Fund	734,810 Units	20,148,496	18,538,944
The Fidelity OTC Portfolio	3,989,456 Units	124,351,349	181,675,956

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The Fidelity Overseas Fund	881,349 Units	24,166,592	31,758,232
The Fidelity Puritan Fund.	2,943,467 Units	52,011,063	53,898,175
The Fidelity Spartan U.S. Equity Index Portfolio.	5,589,715 Units	227,166,030	176,704,057
TOTAL - REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		\$ 702,992,316	\$ 724,993,515
PARTICIPANT LOANS (interest rate ranging from 7.00% through 10.5% maturing through June 2006)		\$ 15,746,700	\$ 15,746,700
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		\$1,801,116,659	\$1,698,209,306

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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
23	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP

EXHIBIT 23

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

American Electric Power Company, Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in Post-Effective Amendment No. 3 to Registration Statement No. 33-1052 of American Electric Power System Retirement Savings Plan (formerly the American Electric Power System Employees Saving Plan) on Form S-8 of our report dated June 25, 2002 appearing in this Annual Report on Form 11-K of American Electric Power System Retirement Savings Plan for the year ended December 31, 2001.

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DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP
Columbus, Ohio
June 28, 2002