FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLETE INC [ ALE ]										neck all appl Direct	r		10% Ov	vner
(Last) (First) (Middle) 30 WEST SUPERIOR STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/15/2012										^ below	r (give title Other (s) ) below)  SVP External Affairs		вреспу 	
(Street) DULUTH MN 55802					- 4. li											6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting				
(City)	city) (State) (Zip)					Person														
		Tab	le I - No								Disp					lly Owne				
Date					nsaction th/Day/Year)		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)			3. Transac Code (Ir 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 5)				Benefic Owned	es ally Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	n: Direct r Indirect   I istr. 4)   (	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
									Ī	Code	v	Amount		(A) or (D)	Price	Reporte Transa (Instr. 3	ction(s)		[	(Instr. 4)
Common Stock					08/15/2012							1,931		A	\$23.	79 12,5	9 12,509.69 <sup>(1)</sup>		D	
Common Stock					08/15/2012					S		1,331		D	\$41.	1 11,	11,178.69		D	
Common Stock 08					15/2012					S		200		D	\$41.	11 10,	10,978.69		D	
Common Stock 08/1					5/2012	2				S		300		D	\$41.	12 10,	2 10,678.69		D	
Common Stock 08/15					5/2012	′2012				S		100		D	\$41.	15 10,578.69			D	
Common Stock																8,27	75.35 <sup>(2)</sup>		I 1	By RSOP Trust
		1										osed of onverti				/ Owned			•	•
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deem Execution if any (Month/Da	Date,		Transaction Code (Instr.		umber ivative urities uired or oosed D) tr. 3, 4	Exp	Date Exe piration l onth/Day	Date		Amo Secu Unde Deriv	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactie (Instr. 4)	s B Illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	le V	(A)	(D)	Dat	te ercisable		xpiration ate	Title		Amount or Number of Shares					
Employee Stock Option - Right to Buy	\$23.79	08/15/2012			M			1,931		(3)	0:	2/03/2013	Com Sto		1,931	\$0	0		D	

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under ALLETE's employee stock purchase plan, the dividend reinvestment features of ALLETE's stock purchase and dividend reinvestment plan, and the dividend equivalent feature of restricted stock grants under ALLETE's executive long-term incentive compensation plan, all based on plan information available as of July 31, 2012.
- 2. Includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under ALLETE's retirement savings and stock ownership plan (RSOP) and is based on RSOP plan information available as of July 31, 2012.
- 3. The option vested in equal installments on February 3, 2004 and February 3, 2005.

## Remarks:

Ingrid K. Johnson for David J. **McMillan** 

08/16/2012

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.