



Jeronimus Named Minnesota Power Senior Vice President

(Duluth, Minn.)—Minnesota Power, an ALLETE company (NYSE: ALE), has named Dave Jeronimus senior vice president of environmental services. Jeronimus is responsible for developing policies and programs to ensure Minnesota Power's compliance with all environmental federal, state and local laws, regulations and standards, including planning and directing related engineering, scientific and technical activities. He is also responsible for ensuring that Company policies and practices are consistently administered in right-of-way acquisition and real estate services, including lease, sale and licensing of hydroelectric property.

"Dave has demonstrated excellent leadership and the skills needed to analyze and interpret increasingly complex environmental regulations," said Bob Edwards, Minnesota Power chief executive officer. "His knowledge and insight on environmental issues are well known and respected at local, state and national levels."

Jeronimus, 59, is a native of Osceola, Wis. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1966 and has a bachelor's degree in forest resource management. Jeronimus joined Minnesota Power in 1974 as an assistant engineer and was promoted to positions of increasing responsibility, including supervising environmental engineer, manager-environmental regulatory affairs, director-real estate management and director-environmental and administrative services. He was promoted to vice president-environmental services in 1999.

Jeronimus serves on several committees of the Edison Electric Institute (EEI). EEI is the association of U.S. shareholder-owned electric companies, international affiliates and industry associates worldwide. Jeronimus chairs EEI's environmental executive advisory committee. He is also a member of the environmental and health business unit of the Electric Power Research Institute, based in Palo Alto, Cal. He is past chair of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce environmental policy committee and now serves as a committee member.

Minnesota Power serves 144,000 customers in northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin with low-cost electricity. ALLETE, Inc. has corporate headquarters located in Duluth, Minn. Other ALLETE businesses include the second-largest wholesale automobile auction network in North America; the leading provider of independent auto dealer inventory financing; the largest investor-owned water utilities in Florida and North Carolina; and significant real estate holdings in Florida.

The statements contained in this release, and statements that ALLETE may make orally in connection with this release that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and investors are directed to the risks discussed in documents filed by ALLETE with the Securities and Exchange Commission.