

ALLETE Board of Directors declares dividend on common stock

DULUTH, Minn. - ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE: ALE) board of directors has declared a quarterly dividend of 44.5 cents per share of common stock.

On an annual basis the dividend is equivalent to \$1.78 per share, unchanged from the previous quarter. The regular quarterly dividend is payable June 1 to common stock shareholders of record at the close of business May 16, 2011. ALLETE's corporate headquarters are located in Duluth, Minnesota. More information about the company is available on ALLETE's Web site at www.allete.com.

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. 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.

Investor Contact: Tim Thorp 218-723-3953 tthorp@allete.com