## 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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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OMB APPROVAL

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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person\* 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol 6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) ALLETE (ALE) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Thorp Timothy J. Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) (Last) (First) (Middle) I.R.S. Identification Number 4. Statement for of Reporting Person, Month/Day/Year VP Investor Relations/Corporate Communications 30 West Superior Street if an entity (voluntary) 10/7/02 5. If Amendment, 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) (Street) Date of Original X Form filed by One Reporting Person Duluth, MN 55802 (Month/Day/Year) Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I — Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Indirect 1. Title of Security 2. Trans-2A. Deemed 3. Trans-6. Owneraction Code (Instr. 3, 4 & 5) ship Form: Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 3) action Execution Securities Date Date. (Instr. 8) Beneficially Direct (D) (Instr. 4) (Month/ Day Owned Followlif anv Code V Amount (A) Price or Indirect (I) Year) (Month/Day ing Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 4) or Year) (Instr. 3 & 4) (D) Common Stock D 34.803(1 By Children Common Stock Ī 190.852<sup>(2)</sup> ī By RSOP Trust Common Stock 6967.99<sup>(3)</sup>

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

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## FORM 4 (continued) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 2. Conver-Number of Derivative 6. Date 7. Title and Amount 8. Price of 11. Nature 1 Title of 3A. 9. Number of 10. of Indirect Derivative sion or Trans-Deemed Trans-Securities Acquired (A) or Exercisable of Underlying Derivative Derivative Owner-Disposed of (D) Security Exercise action Execution action and Expiration Securities Security Securities ship Beneficial Beneficially Date Date, Date Form Ownership Price of Code (Instr. 3 & 4) (Instr. 5) (Month/Day (Instr. 3) Derivative if any (Instr. 3, 4 & 5) Owned of (Instr. 4) Year) Month (Month Security (Instr Following lDeriv-Day/ Year) ative Reported 18) Year) Security Transaction(s (Instr. 4) Direct (D) Code (A) (D) Date Expira-Title Amount or Exer-Number of tion Indirect cisable Date Shares T) (Instr. 4)

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under the dividend reinvestment feature of ALLETE's stock purchase and dividend reinvestment plan. This information is based on a plan statement as of September 30, 2002.
- (2) See explanation (1) above.
- (2) Includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under ALLETE's retirement savings and stock ownership plan (RSOP). RSOP is the recent consolidation of ALLETE's supplemental retirement and employee stock ownership plans. This information is based on an RSOP statement as of September 30, 2002.

By: /s/ Ingrid Kane-Johnson October 7, Ingrid Kane-Johnson f/k/a Ingrid L. Kane for Timothy 2002 J. Thorp Date

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

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

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<sup>\*</sup> If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

<sup>\*\*</sup>Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).