FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| l | OMB APPRO | DVAL | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| l | OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| l | Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | |
| l | hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | |

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

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* <u>CUNNINGHAM THOMAS L</u> | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLETE INC [ALE] | | | | | | | | | | | ip of Reporting Persor plicable) ctor | | (s) to Is | |
|---|--|---------|-----------|--------------|--|--|---------|---------------------|--|-----|----------|--|-------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 144 PINEHURST POINTE DRIVE | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/02/2004 | | | | | | | | | | Offic belov | er (give title w) | | Other (specify below) | |
| (Street) ST. AUGUS | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| (City) | (St | ate) (2 | Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Tabl | e I - Nor | n-Deriv | ative | Se | curitie | s Ac | quired | Dis | posed o | f, or | Bene | efici | ally (| Owne | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | | | Executio | | | 3. Trans Code 8) | | Disposed | ities Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | (A) or 3, 4 a | l and Secur Benef Owne Repor | | cially d Following ted | 6. Owne Form: D (D) or In (I) (Instr. | rect direct | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | | _ | | | | ٧ | Amount | (A) or (D) Pr | | Price | • | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | |
| Common Stock 02/02/ | | | | | 2/2004 | <u> </u> | | | A | | 101.9 | 8 | A \$0 | | 1,901.98 | | D | | | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | ive Conversion Date Execution or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any | | Date, | Code (Instr. | | of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | Expiration (Month/I | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Date | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amount or Numbe of Shares | | | | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Own Forn Direc or In (I) (Ir | ership n: ct (D) direct nstr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

Ingrid K. Johnson for Thomas L. Cunningham

02/04/2004

** 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.