| SEC Form 4 |  |
|------------|--|
|------------|--|

 $\square$ 

I

## 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OMB APPROVAL         |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:          | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average bu | rden      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:  | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| 1. Nume and Address of Reporting Leson |         |       | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ALLETE INC</u> [ ALE ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable) |   |                       |  |  |
|--|---------|-------|---|--|---|-----------------------|--|--|
|  |         |       |   | X  | Director  | 10% Owner             |  |  |
| (Last)<br>BOX 578                      |         |       | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>01/28/2005        |  | Officer (give title below)                            | Other (specify below) |  |  |
| ,                                      |         |       | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)              | 6. Indiv<br>Line)  | idual or Joint/Group Filing (                         | Check Applicable      |  |  |
| (Street)<br>DEER RIVER                 | MN      | 56636 |   | X  | Form filed by One Report<br>Form filed by More than C | 0                     |  |  |
| (City)                                 | (State) | (Zip) |   |  | Person  |                       |  |  |

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Transaction<br>Code (Instr. |   | 4. Securities /<br>Disposed Of (<br>5) |               |                   | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|---|--|---------------|-------------------|---|---|---|
|                                 |  |   | Code                        | v | Amount                                 | (A) or<br>(D) | Price             | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |   | (   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/28/2005                                 |   | A                           |   | 189.42                                 | Α             | \$ <mark>0</mark> | 7,702.99 <sup>(1)</sup>   | D   |   |

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4<br>and 5) |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3<br>and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|---|-----|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A)   | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |  |  |

#### Explanation of Responses:

1. Total shown reflects the one-for-three reverse stock split effective at 12:00 noon EDT on September 20, 2004 and includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under the dividend reinvestment feature of ALLETE's stock purchase and dividend reinvestment plan based on plan information available as of December 31, 2004.

#### **Remarks:**

Ingrid K. Johnson for Jack I. Rajala

02/01/2005

\*\* 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.