

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 8-K**  
**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported) – **May 13, 2009 (May 12, 2009)**

**ALLETE, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Minnesota**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**1-3548**  
(Commission File Number)

**41-0418150**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**30 West Superior Street**  
**Duluth, Minnesota 55802-2093**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(218) 279-5000**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
-

**SECTION 5 – CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Item 5.02 Department of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers**

On May 12, 2009, ALLETE, Inc. (ALLETE or the Company) announced that Alan R. Hodnik will be the Company's President. See the attached press release for further details regarding this announcement.

**Exhibit Number**

99 - ALLETE News Release dated May 12, 2009, announcing Alan R. Hodnik as President of ALLETE.

---

*Readers are cautioned that forward-looking statements should be read in conjunction with ALLETE's disclosures under the heading: "SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT UNDER THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995" located on page 2 of this Form 8-K.*

**Safe Harbor Statement  
Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995**

Statements in this report that are not statements of historical facts may be considered “forward-looking” and, accordingly, involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed. Although such forward-looking statements have been made in good faith and are based on reasonable assumptions, there is no assurance that the expected results will be achieved. Any statements that express, or involve discussions as to, future expectations, risks, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions, events, uncertainties, financial performance or growth strategies (often, but not always, through the use of words or phrases such as “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “expects,” “intends,” “plans,” “projects,” “will likely result,” “will continue,” “could,” “may,” “potential,” “target,” “outlook” or words of similar meaning) are not statements of historical facts and may be forward-looking.

In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, we are hereby filing cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected, or expectations suggested, in forward-looking statements made by or on behalf of ALLETE in this Current Report on Form 8-K, in presentations, on our website, in response to questions or otherwise. These statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to, and are accompanied by, the following important factors, in addition to any assumptions and other factors referred to specifically in connection with such forward-looking statements:

- our ability to successfully implement our strategic objectives;
- our ability to manage expansion and integrate acquisitions;
- prevailing governmental policies, regulatory actions, and legislation including those of the United States Congress, state legislatures, the FERC, the MPUC, the PSCW, and various local and county regulators, and city administrators, about allowed rates of return, financings, industry and rate structure, acquisition and disposal of assets and facilities, real estate development, operation and construction of plant facilities, recovery of purchased power, capital investments and other expenses, present or prospective wholesale and retail competition (including but not limited to transmission costs), zoning and permitting of land held for resale and environmental matters;
- the potential impacts of climate change and future regulation to restrict the emissions of GHG on our Regulated Operations;
- effects of restructuring initiatives in the electric industry;
- economic and geographic factors, including political and economic risks;
- changes in and compliance with laws and regulations;
- weather conditions;
- natural disasters and pandemic diseases;
- war and acts of terrorism;
- wholesale power market conditions;
- population growth rates and demographic patterns;
- effects of competition, including competition for retail and wholesale customers;
- changes in the real estate market;
- pricing and transportation of commodities;
- changes in tax rates or policies or in rates of inflation;
- project delays or changes in project costs;
- availability and management of construction materials and skilled construction labor for capital projects;
- changes in operating expenses, capital and land development expenditures;
- global and domestic economic conditions affecting us or our customers;
- our ability to access capital markets and bank financing;
- changes in interest rates and the performance of the financial markets;
- our ability to replace a mature workforce and retain qualified, skilled and experienced personnel; and
- the outcome of legal and administrative proceedings (whether civil or criminal) and settlements that affect the business and profitability of ALLETE.

Additional disclosures regarding factors that could cause our results and performance to differ from results or performance anticipated by this report are discussed in Item 1A under the heading “Risk Factors” beginning on page 20 of our 2008 Form 10-K. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which such statement is made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which that statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all of these factors, nor can it assess the impact of each of these factors on the businesses of ALLETE or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Readers are urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made by us in this Form 8-K and in our other reports filed with the SEC that attempt to advise interested parties of the factors that may affect our business.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**ALLETE, Inc.**

May 13, 2009

/s/ Steven Q. DeVinck

---

Steven Q. DeVinck  
Controller





For Release: May 12, 2009  
Investor Contact: Tim Thorp  
218-723-3953  
tthorp@allete.com

Contact: Amy Rutledge  
218-723-7400  
arutledge@mnpower.com

### **Alan Hodnik Named President of ALLETE**

Duluth, Minn. – ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE:ALE) today announced that its Board of Directors has named Alan R. Hodnik President of ALLETE. Hodnik, 49, will also be joining the company's Board. Donald J. Shippar, 60, remains Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of ALLETE.

"Al has significant strategic, leadership and operational expertise," said Shippar. "He is well suited to help me guide ALLETE, and will play a key role during this period of significant capital growth as we strive to meet environmental and renewable energy mandates and prepare for future greenhouse gas initiatives."

Hodnik, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, joined Minnesota Power in 1978 and in 2007 was named Minnesota Power's Chief Operating Officer with responsibilities for transmission, distribution, generation and engineering functions as well as Superior, Water, Light & Power and BNI Coal. His previous positions include Senior Vice President of Minnesota Power Operations, Vice President - Generation Operations, and Leader of ALLETE's Organizational Development Team. He is also a member of the Edison Electric Institute's Energy Supply Executive Advisory Committee.

Besides maintaining strong working relationships with business, organized labor, political and education leaders in northeastern Minnesota, Hodnik has served on various state and regional task forces throughout his career. A native of Aurora, Minnesota, he served as its mayor from 1988-1997.

"It is humbling and exciting to have the opportunity to help lead ALLETE during this period in the company's history," Hodnik said. "ALLETE has a talented team of employees, and is well positioned both strategically and financially. I look forward to working closely with Chairman and CEO Don Shippar and our leadership team to drive long-term growth and shareholder value while maintaining the outstanding service our customers have come to expect."

Based in Duluth, Minn., ALLETE provides regulated energy services in Minnesota and Wisconsin, has an equity investment in the American Transmission Company, and owns BNI Coal in North Dakota and ALLETE Properties in Florida. More information about the company is available at [www.allete.com](http://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. 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.*

ALLETE · 30 West Superior Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802  
[www.allete.com](http://www.allete.com)

---

