FORM 3

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## **INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0104

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Candy Warren L				vent Requiring /Year) 4	Statement	nent 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLETE INC [ ALE ]						
(Last) (First) (Middle) 30 WEST SUPERIOR STREET  (Street)  DULUTH MN 55802  (City) (State) (Zip)			_			4. Relation (Check all	iship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer applicable) Director Officer (give title below) Sr. VP Utility Operat	10% Owner Other (specify tions	pelow)		ividual or Joint/Group F	iginal Filed (Month/Day/Year) Filing (Check Applicable Line) e Reporting Person re than One Reporting Person
			<u> </u>	Table	I - Non-De	erivative S	Securities Beneficially Owned			<u>'</u>		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)						2. Amount o (Instr. 4)	of Securities Beneficially Owned	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)		4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)		
Common Stock						237.66(1)		D				
Common Stock							313.69(1)	I By		By RSOP Trust		
							curities Beneficially Owned options, convertible securitie	s)				
Expiration (Month/Da				Expiration D			3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivat (Instr. 4)		4. Conver Exercise I of Derivat	Price	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
				Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title		Amount or Number of Shares	Security			
Employee Stock Option (right to buy) 02/03/2005 02/03/20					02/03/2013		Common Stock	1,515	23.79		D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy) (2) 02/02/					02/02/2014		Common Stock	3,351	37.7	6	D	

## Explanation of Responses:

- Total shown reflects the one-for-three reverse stock split effective at 12:00 noon EDT on September 20, 2004.
   The option will vest in three equal installments on February 2, 2005, February 2, 2006 and February 2, 2007.

Ingrid K. Johnson for Warren L. Candy

09/30/2004

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

- 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 5 (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.

Exhibit 24

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Deborah A. Amberg, Ingrid K. Johnson, Christopher D. Anderson, Lyssa S. Sup:

(1) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of ALLETE, Inc. (Company), Forms 3, 4, and 5 in accords

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Forms 3, 4, or 5, compi

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best :

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or the undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is the Compar This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4, and 5 with respect to the undersigned's IN MITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 27th day September, 2004.

/s/ Warren L. Candy