



McMillan Named Senior Vice President

(Duluth, Minn.)--Minnesota Power, an ALLETE company (NYSE: ALE), has named Dave McMillan senior vice president of strategic accounts and governmental affairs. Currently vice president of strategic accounts/marketing, McMillan will also be responsible for addressing external issues that affect Minnesota Power. His appointment becomes effective Jan. 1, 2002.

"Legislative and regulatory strategy, policy and implementation - and the need to aggressively work with our key customers as they address their energy costs - have been identified by our management team as being key issues in 2002 and beyond," said Bob Edwards, Minnesota Power Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "I'm confident of Dave's abilities to address these issues because of his demonstrated expertise and leadership skills, and I look forward to working with him in his expanded role at Minnesota Power." McMillan, 40, is a native of Hartford, Conn. He graduated from the University of Minnesota-Duluth in 1983 and earned his law degree from the University of Minnesota in 1987. McMillan joined Minnesota Power in 1989 as a company attorney and was named senior attorney in 1995. In 1998, he was named vice president-customer solutions and in 2000 became vice president-strategic accounts/marketing. He is married and has two children.

Minnesota Power serves 144,000 customers in northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin with low-cost electricity. ALLETE, Inc. has corporate headquarters located in Duluth, Minn. Other ALLETE businesses include the second-largest wholesale automobile auction network in North America; the leading provider of independent auto dealer inventory financing; the largest investor-owned water utilities in Florida and North Carolina; and significant real estate holdings in Florida.

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.