ALLETE shareholders elect Len Rodman to Board of Directors

At their annual meeting May 12 in Duluth, Minn., ALLETE shareholders elected Len C. Rodman to its board of directors.

Rodman is Chairman, President and CEO of Black & Veatch, headquartered in Overland Park, Kan. Black & Veatch is a leading global engineering, consulting and construction company that specializes in infrastructure development in energy, water, telecommunications, management consulting and environmental markets. Black & Veatch employs approximately 9,600 people in over 100 offices worldwide with projects completed in more than 100 countries on six continents.

After graduating from Iowa State University with a degree in Civil Engineering, Rodman joined Black & Veatch in 1971. He earned a master's in Environmental Engineering, from the University of Missouri in 1978. Rodman has served as process designer, project engineer, and project manager for more than 50 municipal water, wastewater, and industrial wastewater treatment projects.

He was named an Executive Partner of the company's Environmental Group and later became a Managing Partner. He was named CEO and President in 1998 and added the role of Chairman of the Board in 2000.

"Len brings broad and deep experience to the ALLETE board" said Don Shippar, ALLETE Chairman and CEO. "His observations and contributions will be invaluable to the board's discussions, as the company prepares for new environmental and renewable energy mandates and initiatives to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We're excited to have Len's perspectives as we shape the company for the future."

Based in Duluth, Minn., ALLETE (NYSE: ALE) 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.

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.

Investor Contact:
Tim Thorp
218-723-3953
tthorp@allete.com