



ALLETE, Inc. Board Elects Two New Directors

DULUTH, Minn.—ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE: ALE) today announced the election of Dennis Green and Deborah Weinstein to its board of directors, effective June 1.

Green, 62, is a Certified Public Accountant and former chief auditor at Citicorp and its principal subsidiary, Citibank, N.A., where he was responsible for worldwide audit functions. Prior to his employment with Citicorp, Green was a finance executive with Ford Motor Company for 11 years, holding several positions including general auditor. Green also served in the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget during President Carter's administration. He is a graduate of Wayne State University and resides in Beaufort, South Carolina.

Weinstein, 43, is co-founder and partner at LaBarge Weinstein, one of Canada's premier business law firms based in Ottawa, Ontario. She was a partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon, one of Canada's largest law firms, from 1991 until 1997 and was managing partner at that firm's Ottawa office. Weinstein's work focuses on securities, mergers and acquisitions, and business law. She is personal legal advisor and trustee for Jean Chretien, Prime Minister of Canada. Weinstein is a graduate of Osgoode Hall Law School, Toronto, Ontario.

Green and Weinstein will join Thomas Cunningham, who was elected to the ALLETE board on May 13. Cunningham, 57, is a retired automotive industry executive who most recently served as director of remarketing strategy for Ford Motor Company.

"I'm pleased with these fine additions to our board," said David Garzke, ALLETE Chairman, President, and CEO. "Their backgrounds and skills match up well with our strategy as we move forward."

ALLETE's corporate headquarters are located in Duluth, Minnesota. ALLETE's holdings include ADESA, the second largest wholesale automobile auction network in North America; AFC, the leading provider of independent auto dealer inventory financing; Minnesota Power, a low-cost electric utility that serves some of the largest industrial customers in the United States; and significant real estate holdings in Florida. For more information about ALLETE, visit the company's Web site 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.

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