



Kathryn W. Dindo named to ALLETE Board of Directors

Duluth, Minn.-ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE: ALE) announced today that Kathryn "Kitty" Dindo, has joined ALLETE's Board of Directors.

Dindo, 60, is a business and civic leader from Akron, Ohio. She was elected by ALLETE's Board of Directors at its July 21, 2009 meeting. As a former senior finance executive for two publicly traded companies, Dindo has a varied and extensive background in finance and enterprise risk.

From 2001 to 2008 Dindo served as vice president and chief risk officer for FirstEnergy Corp., (NYSE: FE) a diversified energy company serving more than 4.5 million customers in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Prior to joining FirstEnergy in 1998, Dindo was vice president and chief accounting officer of Caliber System, Inc, which was acquired by FedEx Corp., (NYSE: FDX) a transportation services company. Before moving to Caliber, Dindo was an audit partner at Ernst & Young in Akron, serving as client service executive.

"We're pleased to welcome Kitty to the board," said ALLETE Chairman and CEO Don Shippar. "Her diversified business experience and financial expertise will be a tremendous asset to our company."

Dindo is a member of the board of directors of The J.M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM) and chair of its audit committee. She is also a board member of Bush Brothers and Company, a privately held company, where she serves as audit committee chair. Dindo holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Akron. She is a former trustee and chair of the Akron Community Foundation. She currently serves as trustee of the University of Akron Foundation and varied community organizations.

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