



## **ALLETE Board Names Two New Members**

DULUTH, Minn. -- ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE: ALE) announced today the addition of Heidi J. Eddins and Donald J. Shippar to its board of directors, effective Sept. 21, 2004. Eddins is executive vice president, secretary and general counsel of Florida East Coast Industries, Inc., a transportation and real estate company based in St. Augustine, Fla. Shippar is president and CEO of ALLETE.

Eddins, 48, holds a bachelor's degree from Boston College and earned her law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law where she graduated, with honors, in 1981. Eddins joined Florida East Coast Industries in 1999 and is responsible for all legal affairs of the corporation and is its chief compliance officer. She also manages a variety of real estate related transactions for the company.

"We are very pleased that Heidi will be joining the ALLETE board," said board member Bruce Stender. "ALLETE has an important real estate presence in Florida and her experience will be helpful to our continued success there."

Shippar, 55, was appointed ALLETE president and CEO in January, 2004. He joined ALLETE in 1976. Shippar's previous positions with the company include Senior Vice President for Customer Service and Delivery, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Minnesota Power, and President and Chief Operating Officer of Minnesota Power.

"Don has provided strong leadership at ALLETE for many years," Stender said. "Both our internal and external stakeholders will benefit from his insight as the Company executes its strategic plan."

ALLETE's corporate headquarters are located in Duluth, Minnesota. ALLETE provides energy services in the upper Midwest and has significant real estate holdings in Florida. ALLETE is the majority owner of ADESA, Inc., a leading vehicle remarketing company. More information about the company is available on ALLETE's Web site at [www.allete.com](http://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.