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NEWS

Shippar Named Chairman of ALLETE Board of Directors

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DULUTH, Minn.—The ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE:ALE) Board of Directors announced today that ALLETE President and CEO Donald J. Shippar will also serve as its chairman, effective January 1, 2006.

Shippar, 56, was elected ALLETE President and CEO in January, 2004. He joined the company in 1976, and has held various positions since that time, including 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. He joined the board in September, 2004.

Shippar replaces Bruce Stender, 63, who will remain on the ALLETE board as lead director. Stender has been a director of ALLETE since 1995, and will continue to chair the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. He is President and CEO of Labovitz Enterprises, Inc., which owns and manages hotel properties.

“Don has provided strong leadership for ALLETE through the past two years,” said Stender. “The company has delivered on its strategy, and we are very pleased with its progress. I’ve enjoyed my time as chairman of ALLETE, and am very proud of the company and its accomplishments.”

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. More information is available on regarding ALLETE 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 forwardlooking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forwardlooking statements. These forwardlooking 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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