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# NEWS

## **Minnesota Power Donates \$50,000 to Salvation Army Heatshare Fund**

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DULUTH, Minn.—Minnesota Power announced today it will donate \$50,000 to the Salvation Army's HeatShare program to assist low-income residents with their heating bills this winter, more than doubling the contribution it made last year. A presentation ceremony is scheduled to take place Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 9:30 a.m. at the Duluth Salvation Army Headquarters, 215 S. 27th Ave. W., Duluth.

HeatShare is a voluntary initiative that provides funds donated by utilities and their customers for heating bills and heat-related repairs. It's a last resort for those who have no other means to see them through the winter.

"While electric rates have remained steady this season, customers who use other heating fuels are experiencing severe price increases," said Sue Thompson, Minnesota Power Director Customer Service. "As a founding member of the Minnesota HeatShare program, we are committed to doing what we can to help those customers who need help with their heating bills."

HeatShare is administered by the Salvation Army. Minnesota Power customers can make tax-deductible contributions by having a monthly payment added to their electric statement or by enclosing payments, made payable to HeatShare, and including them with their monthly electric bill payment. Minnesota Power will then forward monies donated by customers to the Salvation Army.

In 2004 Minnesota Power received the Corporate Citizen Award from the city of Duluth for its dedication to the HeatShare program. Last year HeatShare provided assistance to more than 600 households in the Minnesota Power service territory.

Minnesota Power, a division of ALLETE, provides electricity in a 26,000-square-mile electric service territory located in northeastern Minnesota. Minnesota Power supplies retail electric service to 135,000 retail customers, wholesale electric service to 16 municipalities, and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States.

*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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