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MEDIA ADVISORY

Minnesota Power's first hybrid electric bucket truck ready to roll into a neighborhood near you

Duluth, Minn.— Minnesota Power will unveil its first plug-in hybrid electric bucket truck Feb. 23 at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center during the 26th annual Energy Design Conference & Expo. The truck features an electric-operated boom powered by batteries and was purchased from Altec Inc., which has an operations and service center in Duluth.

The company's recent addition to its vehicle fleet reflects a commitment among utilities nationwide to devote 5 percent of their annual vehicle fleet acquisition budgets to purchasing plug-in electric vehicles and other sustainable technologies. This hybrid technology allows the boom and bucket to be operated while the truck is turned off. Eliminating the need to idle trucks at worksites lowers emissions and reduces noise, benefitting the neighborhoods where Minnesota Power lineworkers are performing maintenance, completing repairs or restoring service.

The public can view the new truck from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 23.

Media are invited to see the bucket truck in action during a demonstration conducted by Minnesota Power lineworkers. Company representatives will be available to answer questions. Media availability:

**WHEN: Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016
11 a.m to noon, demonstration and Minnesota Power representatives available to answer questions**

WHERE: DECC parking lot (city side, near main entrance)

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 143,000 customers, 16 municipalities and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States. More information can be found at www.mnpower.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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