

Adams Robert John  
 Form 4  
 May 17, 2012

# FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 Adams Robert John

(Last) (First) (Middle)

30 WEST SUPERIOR STREET

(Street)

DULUTH, MN 55802

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ALLETE INC [ALE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 05/17/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

VP Bus. Dev; Chief Risk Ofcr

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Code V Amount Price                                    |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 05/17/2012                           |  | S                              | 1,000 D \$ 38.97  | 4,115.44 <sup>(1)</sup>   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 9,466.22 <sup>(2)</sup>   | I  | By RSOP Trust                     |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships |           |                                    |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                            | Other |
| Adams Robert John<br>30 WEST SUPERIOR STREET<br>DULUTH, MN 55802 |               |           | VP Bus.<br>Dev; Chief<br>Risk Ofcr |       |

## Signatures

Ingrid K. Johnson for Robert J. Adams  
05/17/2012

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under ALLETE's stock purchase and dividend reinvestment plan and ALLETE's employee stock purchase plan, all based on plan information available as of April 30, 2012.
- (2) Includes shares acquired in exempt transactions under ALLETE's retirement savings and stock ownership plan (RSOP) and is based on RSOP plan information available as of April 30, 2012.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.