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PHILIP R. HALVERSON  
Vice President,  
General Counsel and Secretary

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AUG 5 2002

August 5, 2002

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
450 Fifth Street NW  
Washington, DC 20549

RE: Sworn Statements Under Oath of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer  
Regarding Facts and Circumstances Relating to Exchange Act Filing Submitted by ALLETE, Inc.  
(File No. 1-3548)

Dear Mr. Katz:

Pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, ALLETE, Inc. hereby submits  
statements under oath of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer Regarding Facts and  
Circumstances Relating to Exchange Act Filing.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at 218-723-3964.

Very truly yours,

*Philip R. Halverson*  
Philip R. Halverson

Enclosures

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Exhibit 99(a)

**STATEMENT UNDER OATH OF  
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER  
REGARDING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO EXCHANGE ACT FILINGS**

I, David G. Gartzke, state and attest that:

- (1) To the best of my knowledge, based upon a review of the covered reports of ALLETE, Inc., and, except as corrected or supplemented in a subsequent covered report:
  - no covered report contained an untrue statement of a material fact as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed); and
  - no covered report omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements in the covered report, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed).
- (2) I have reviewed the contents of this statement with ALLETE's audit committee.
- (3) In this statement under oath, each of the following, if filed on or before the date of this statement, is a "covered report":
  - Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001 of ALLETE;
  - all reports on Form 10-Q, all reports on Form 8-K and all definitive proxy materials of ALLETE filed with the Commission subsequent to the filing of the Form 10-K identified above; and
  - any amendments to any of the foregoing.

*David G. Gartzke*  
\_\_\_\_\_

David G. Gartzke  
Chairman, President and  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: August 5, 2002

Subscribed and sworn to  
before me this 5th day of  
August 2002.

*Mary K. Johnson*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires:



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