

## NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENTS OF HVDC SERVICE

On December 31, 2009, ALLETE, Inc d/b/a Minnesota Power (“ALLETE”) and Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (“Minnkota”) each executed a *Service Agreement for the Resale, Reassignment or Transfer of HVDC Service* with the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (“Midwest ISO”). The Service Agreements implement two related assignments of 227 MW of HVDC Service administered by the Midwest ISO pursuant to Section 27A of the Midwest ISO’s Open Access Transmission, Energy and Operating Reserve Markets Tariff and the *Agency Agreement for Open Access Transmission Service over Non-Transferred HVDC Facilities between the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. and ALLETE, Inc.*, as accepted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Docket No. ER09-1727.

Under the first assignment, effective December 31, 2009, Minnkota assigns 227 MW of high-voltage direct-current (“HVDC”) transmission capacity to ALLETE until January 1, 2029, subject to any and all rollover rights under the then-applicable open access transmission tariff. Under the second assignment, ALLETE immediately re-assigns the same 227 MW of HVDC transmission capacity back to Minnkota until the in-service date of a new alternating current high voltage transmission line that Minnkota is planning to construct that will run from the Square Butte Substation located near Center, North Dakota to a terminus point in the Red River Valley, North Dakota to be identified by Minnkota.

The Point of Receipt for both assignments is MP.HVDCW. The Point of Delivery for both assignments is MP.HVDCE.

The Midwest ISO OASIS Resale/Reassignment Transfer TSR Numbers for the first assignment are **from** 76802209 **to** 76802201 through 76802208, 76802210 through 76802211, and 76802213 through 76802216. The Midwest ISO OASIS Resale/Reassignment Transfer TSR Numbers for the second assignment are **from** 76802201 through 76802208, 76802210 through 76802211, and 76802213 through 76802216 **to** 76802209.

The Midwest ISO Capacity Reassignment Service Agreement Number for the first assignment will be available on January 4, 2010. The Midwest ISO Capacity Reassignment Service Agreement Number for the second assignment will be available on January 4, 2010.