



For Release: July 16, 2019

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NEWS

Minnesota Power warns customers not to fall victim to scam phone calls *One customer reported an in-person scam attempt*

Duluth, Minn. — Customers of Minnesota Power, an ALLETE (NYSE:ALE) company, are reporting an unusually high number of scam phone calls in which the caller poses as a Minnesota Power representative and demands customers use a credit or debit card to pay their bill immediately or have their power disconnected.

Minnesota Power does not call customers to request payment, and does not ask for credit or debit account numbers or threaten disconnection over the phone.

Any customers receiving such a call should not provide card numbers or their Minnesota Power account number. They should instead hang up and report the call, and the number the call came from if possible, to Minnesota Power at (800) 228-4966. Customers also can report the calls and numbers to their local police department.

In addition to the scam phone calls, an employee of one Minnesota Power customer reported that a man appeared at the business demanding payment to avoid disconnection. He left a business card and instructions to call (800) 894-3251 (not a Minnesota Power number) and to reference “work number” 10074140 to make the payment.

Minnesota Power representatives provide customers two automated voicemails and two written requests for payment and notices of disconnection. Only then will a company representative visit a customer in person to request payment or complete the disconnection. Minnesota Power representatives also carry an identification badge.

Any in-person attempt to request payment or threaten disconnection without prior voicemail and written notice, and without an identification badge, should be reported to the police.

To learn more, go to <https://www.mnpower.com/Alerts>. To avoid any phone scam, the Federal Trade Commission recommends people ignore calls from toll-free numbers they are not familiar with and block them if possible.

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 145,000 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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