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NEWS

ALLETE Clean Energy and partners donate \$105,000 to three Oklahoma school districts Money will support remote learning needs and help supply protective equipment

Duluth, Minn. — ALLETE Clean Energy, a wholly owned subsidiary of ALLETE (NYSE: ALE), in partnership with five other entities today announced \$105,000 in grants to the Roff, Sulphur and Tishomingo school districts near the company's Diamond Spring wind site in Mill Creek, Oklahoma.

The contributions will be used for pandemic-related expenses related to remote learning and safety. The money will go toward computers and internet access for students and teachers, and personal protective equipment for school staff and students.

"Schools and the children they serve are hit especially hard during COVID-19. Families cannot always cover the expenses that support effective remote learning, and schools can't cover the same expenses for their teachers," said ALLETE Clean Energy President Allan S. Rudeck Jr. "Safety is one of ALLETE Clean Energy's core values, and we consider grants to help keep students and staff safer at home as a meaningful way we can help right now. We always strive to work with our partners to promote healthy communities and donate to communities near our wind sites, and we appreciate their shared values and support to help make a difference."

ALLETE Clean Energy donated \$73,000 for the three school district grants. Joining ALLETE Clean Energy in the grants are Oklahoma City-based law firm Crowe and Dunlevy; Sheppard Mullin, an international law firm based in Los Angeles; Burns and McDonnell, a construction engineering firm based in Kansas City, Missouri; Apex Clean Energy, a renewable energy developer; and Red Hot Construction, a subcontractor at the Diamond Spring wind site.

"Now, more than ever, Apex is committed to supporting those who make our work possible—in this case, the Johnston and Pontotoc communities," said Mark Goodwin, Apex Clean Energy president and CEO. "Together with our good partner ALLETE Clean Energy, we appreciate the opportunity to support the fundamental work of these school districts and foster resiliency within the Diamond Spring community."

Superintendents for the school districts receiving the grants say the monies will make a meaningful impact.

"We are thrilled to have community partners that are putting an emphasis on education and understanding the needs that have arisen for our district over the last year due to the pandemic," said Matt Holder, Sulphur School District Superintendent. "We are thankful for the partnership and look forward to working with ALLETE Clean Energy in the future."

"In these uncertain times, when we have had to completely revamp how we deliver educational opportunities to our students, these extra funds have gone a long way to help provide things like Chromebooks and software licenses," said Scott Morgan, Superintendent of Roff School District.

ALLETE Clean Energy owns and operates the nearby Diamond Spring wind project, which supplies Walmart, Starbucks and Smithfield Foods with renewable energy. Diamond Spring is capable of producing 303 megawatts of electricity, enough to power about 110,000 homes.

A previous ALLETE Clean Energy \$50,000 grant in August to the Mill Creek School District near Diamond Spring, in partnership with GE Renewable Energy and Wanzek, the engineering, procurement and construction contractor at Diamond Spring, helped the school district purchase about 70 iPads for students and 16 laptops for teachers for remote learning.

ALLETE Clean Energy acquires, develops and operates clean and renewable energy projects and is well-positioned to drive additional clean-energy sector growth. ALLETE Clean Energy owns, operates, has in advanced construction and has delivered build-transfer projects totaling more than 1,450 megawatts of nameplate wind capacity across seven states. For more information visit <http://alletecleanenergy.com/>

ALLETE, Inc. is an energy company headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota. In addition to its electric utilities, Minnesota Power and Superior Water, Light and Power of Wisconsin, ALLETE owns ALLETE Clean Energy, based in Duluth; BNI Energy in Bismarck, North Dakota; and has an 8 percent equity interest in the American Transmission Co. More information about ALLETE is available at www.allete.com. ALE-CORP

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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