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AN ALLETE COMPANY

Superior Water, Light & Power statement on takeover of utility

We understand that the city is undertaking several ambitious projects as part of its annual budgeting process, including extensive street repairs and launching a new broadband service.

Now the Mayor is proposing that the city potentially own and operate the utility service that residents have received from Superior, Water Light & Power (SWL&P) for 135 years.

It is difficult to provide a formal response to the Mayor's plans when the City is just starting to use taxpayer dollars to hire the outside consultants they need to learn about the required steps and costs of this plan. We recommend that one topic for the consultants' study is to inform the community about how the City intends to raise the hundreds of millions of dollars needed to buy the utility.

SWL&P is focusing our attention on changing the law that keeps Superior residents and businesses from accessing federal funds to replace lead pipes. Nearly every other Wisconsin community has access to these dollars, and a simple law change in 2025 can result in fair treatment for our customers. The City has not committed to work with us on this legislation, but we hope they will step up and partner together to benefit Superior residents.

Superior Water, Light and Power provides electricity, water and natural gas in the city of Superior and adjacent areas in northwestern Wisconsin. The company has served the area since 1889 and provides services to approximately 15,000 electric customers, 13,000 natural gas customers and 10,000 water customers. More information can be found at www.swlp.com.

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