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****PHOTO OPPORTUNITY****

WESTAR ENERGY CELEBRATES A CENTURY OF SERVICE IN KANSAS

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 10, 2009 — Westar Energy will celebrate a century of providing electric service in Kansas on Friday, Dec. 11, 2009. To mark this milestone, employees will hold receptions at local offices by sharing stories and company memorabilia and receiving a commemorative photo book.

On Dec. 11, 1909, the American Power and Light Company incorporated Kansas Gas and Electric Company to operate south and southeast Kansas properties owned by Electric Bond and Share. The Kansas Power and Light Company was incorporated in 1924 to serve north and northeast Kansas. In 1992, KGE and KPL merged to form Western Resources, but continued to operate as KGE and KPL. Western Resources became Westar Energy in 2002, and both utilities adopted that name for service

“During the past century the organization has evolved and the number of employees has grown, but the dedication to providing safe, reliable, high quality, electric service at a reasonable cost to all customers still serves as the heart of Westar Energy’s commitment.” said Bill Moore, president and chief executive officer. “Westar Energy works to be an outstanding

model of civic leadership and environmental stewardship and together with our communities, for the next 100 years, we will continue to make Kansas a better place to live.”

Today, Westar Energy is the largest electric provider in Kansas, delivering electricity to more than 684,000 customers in 55 counties. Westar Energy has a generation capacity greater than 6,800 megawatts and owns over 35,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines. It takes a dedicated team of more than 2,400 employees to keep the electricity flowing night and day.

Members of the media are invited to join Westar Energy employees at the company’s local offices. Attached is a schedule and contact person for each location.

Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest consolidated electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to more than 684,000 customers in the state. Westar Energy has about 6,800 megawatts of electric generation capacity and operates and coordinates more than 35,000 miles of electric distribution and transmission lines.

For more information about Westar Energy, visit us on the Internet at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>.

100th Anniversary Celebration by Locations – Friday, December 11, 2009

Location	Time	Contact	Phone Number
Abilene	3:00 p.m.	Tom Sydow	785-822-3549
Arkansas City	7:30 a.m.	Doug Coin	620-441-2401
Atchison	8:00 a.m.	Ed Hargrove	913-367-8006
El Dorado	2:00 p.m.	Bernard Schauf	316-321-8003
Emporia Service Center	1:30 p.m.	Bill Heins	620-341-7065
Fort Scott	1:00 p.m.	Jim Sackett	620-223-7777
Hutchinson Service Center	2:30 p.m.	Dan Dejmal	620-669-2001
Independence	1:00 p.m.	Don Hill	620-332-2601
Lawrence Service Center	3:00 p.m.	Jeff McKee	785-865-4848
Leavenworth	3:00 p.m.	Jeff Martin	913-667-5101
Manhattan	2:30 p.m.	Helen Wimsatt	785-587-2329
Newton	2:00 p.m.	Rob Whitley	316-284-5740
Parsons	10:30 a.m.	Debbie LaForge	620-820-8203
Pittsburg	9:00 a.m.	Mike Willis	620-235-2503
Salina	7:30 a.m.	Tom Sydow	785-822-3549
Shawnee Service Center	7:30 a.m.	Julie Jones	913-667-5150
Topeka General Office	10:00 a.m.	Nick Bundy	785-575-1149
Wichita Bank of America Building	3:00 p.m.	Karla Olsen	316-299-7463
Wichita System Control Center	8:00 a.m.	Karen Smith	316-261-6570
Wichita Operations Center	9:00 a.m.	Caroline Pearson	316-261-6575