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WESTAR ENERGY ANNOUNCES ENERGY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Alliance formed with Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission

TOPEKA, Kan., Oct. 4, 2006 — Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE:WR) today announced it has entered into an agreement with the Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission to provide energy management services. Westar will provide energy scheduling, control dispatch, ancillary services and other related power marketing services. Under the terms of the agreement, Westar will purchase supplemental energy in the next day and real time markets for the utility commission when prices are favorable and market excess energy when available.

“This alliance continues a long relationship between our two organizations. It also allows Westar to continue executing our business strategy of providing energy marketing services to other parties,” said Doug Sterbenz of Westar Energy. “We are excited to help the utility commission and its pool member cities participate in the marketplace when it is more economical and help reduce their costs.”

Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission is an electric joint action agency formed to provide community owned utilities the ability to pool their resources. It currently

operates Missouri Public Energy Pool, which comprises 31 cities and has approximately 370 megawatts of peak load.

-30-

Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to about 667,000 customers in the state. Westar Energy has nearly 6,000 megawatts of electric generation capacity and operates and coordinates approximately 33,000 miles of electric distribution and transmission lines.

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