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**WESTAR ENERGY TO WEBCAST 2009 ANNUAL SHAREHOLDER MEETING**

TOPEKA, Kan., May 15, 2009 – On Thursday, May 21, 2009, Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE:WR) will conduct its 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders in the Emerald Ballroom at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka, Kan. The audio of the meeting will be accessible on the Westar Energy homepage, [www.WestarEnergy.com](http://www.WestarEnergy.com). The meeting and Webcast will begin at 11 a.m. Eastern (10 a.m. Central).

**Event:** Westar Energy 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

**Date:** May 21, 2009

**Time:** 11 a.m. Eastern (10 a.m. Central)

**Location:** 1) Emerald Ballroom, Capital Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Boulevard,  
Topeka, Kan., or

2) Log on to the Webcast at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>. A replay of the meeting will be available on the Westar Energy Web site.

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Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest consolidated electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to more than 679,000 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>.