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WESTAR ENERGY SCHEDULES CONFERENCE CALL TO DISCUSS FIRST QUARTER 2009 RESULTS

TOPEKA, Kan., Apr. 16, 2009 – On May 8, 2009, Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE:WR) will release first-quarter 2009 earnings before market open. Bill Moore, Westar Energy president and chief executive officer, will host a conference call and audio Webcast at 10 a.m. Eastern Time (9 a.m. Central).

Event: Westar Energy First Quarter 2009 Earnings Conference Call and Webcast

Date: May 8, 2009

Time: 10 a.m. Eastern (9 a.m. Central)

Location: 1) Phone conference call at 888-713-4213, participant code 71193428 or
2) Log on to the Webcast at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>

In conjunction with the earnings release and prior to the conference call the company plans to post on its Web site supplemental financial information related to the first quarter performance. The materials will be available under Investor Presentations in the Investors section of the company Web site at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>.

A replay of the conference call will be available from about noon Eastern May 8 through May 15 at 888-286-8010, conference ID #32537391. The replay also will be available on the Westar Energy Web site at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>.

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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>.