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**WESTAR ENERGY LAUNCHES ELECTROGO TO PROVIDE SUPPORT,
EDUCATION FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE ADOPTION**

Media invited to test drive company's Chevy Volt.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 23, 2011 — Westar Energy will unveil ElectroGo, its program to support the adoption of electric vehicles at Heartland Park Topeka at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25. Members of the media are invited to hear about the program and take a Chevy Volt for a test drive around the track. One of Westar Energy's new all-electric cargo trucks will also be on site.

Memorial Day weekend traditionally kicks off the summer vacation season, and as gasoline prices continue to rise, manufacturers and consumers are looking for more affordable options. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that motorists could save up to 75 percent driving electric vehicles compared with traditional gas-power combustion engines.

“There is no better way to solve some of the nation's energy and political issues than to drive with Kansas kilowatt-hours instead of foreign oil,” Westar Chief Executive Officer Bill Moore told company shareholders at its annual meeting in Topeka on May 19.

Westar is adding fully electric and electric hybrid vehicles to its fleet. In addition, the company is working with communities to expand the network of charging stations in eastern Kansas.

In 2009, Westar Energy was among utilities nationwide that pledged support for plug-in electric vehicles.

Company representatives will be at the winners' circle/media box. Please use Gate E and check in at the guard station.

In the case of light or moderate rain, the event will proceed. In the case of heavy rain or severe weather, the event will be rescheduled. Gina Penzig, director, corporate communications, can be reached the afternoon of the event at 785.640.9970.

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Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to about 687,000 customers in the state. Westar Energy has about 7,100 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>.