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**PRAIRIE WIND TRANSMISSION SCHEDULES ADDITIONAL OPEN HOUSE  
FOR PROPOSED HIGH-CAPACITY TRANSMISSION LINE**

**Company considers alternate route options, requests landowner input at Medicine Lodge**

**open house on Monday, Jan. 24.**

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 14, 2011— Prairie Wind Transmission, LLC , a joint venture between Westar Energy and Electric Transmission America, is inviting landowners to an open house to learn more about alternate route options being considered for the proposed high-capacity transmission line that will be routed from Medicine Lodge to the Kansas-Oklahoma border – part of a project commonly referred to as the Y-plan.

Under the Y-plan, Prairie Wind Transmission will construct the line from Wichita to Medicine Lodge to the Kansas-Oklahoma border. Oklahoma Gas and Electric (OGE) will continue the line from the Kansas-Oklahoma border to Woodward, Okla. ITC Great Plains will construct the line from Medicine Lodge to a Clark County substation and then to Spearville.

In November, Prairie Wind Transmission held a series of open houses to provide landowners and the public information regarding possible route options for its portion of the Y-

plan project. The company has since developed an additional proposed route option that follows an existing transmission line north and west of Medicine Lodge. The company also added routes to and from ITC's revised substation location. Multiple routes are still being considered for this line. Landowners within 1,000 feet of the newly proposed segments were sent letters personally inviting them to attend the open house.

The open house is informal and designed for residents to come and go at their convenience. It is scheduled from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. as follows:

- Monday, Jan. 24, 2011, Heritage Center, 1056 SE Isabel Rd., Medicine Lodge

Landowners will be asked to fill out a questionnaire at the open house. The consulting firm, Burns & McDonnell, will score the questionnaire and use the data to help determine a preferred route for the transmission line. Prairie Wind anticipates requesting route approval from the Kansas Corporation Commission in early 2011.

For more information about Prairie Wind Transmission, please visit the website at

<http://www.prairiewindtransmission.com/>.

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Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to about 679,000 customers in the state. Westar Energy has about 6,800 megawatts of electric generation capacity and operates and coordinates approximately 35,000 miles of electric distribution and transmission lines. For more information about Westar Energy, visit <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>.

Electric Transmission America is a joint venture between subsidiaries of American Electric Power and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company to build and own electric transmission assets. The joint venture is a 50-50 partnership to identify and invest in high-voltage transmission projects (345-kilovolt or higher) located in North America outside of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT). The two companies have an existing joint venture agreement to build transmission in ERCOT. ETA's current joint venture projects include Prairie Wind Transmission in Kansas and Tallgrass Transmission in Oklahoma. AEP, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, is one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity to more than 5 million customers in 11 states. MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company ([www.midamerican.com](http://www.midamerican.com)), based in Des Moines, Iowa, is a global provider of energy services to more than 6.9 million customers worldwide. AEP ([www.aep.com](http://www.aep.com)) has extensive experience building extra-high-voltage 765-kV transmission lines and owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a nearly 39,000-mile network that includes 2,100 miles of 765-kV transmission lines, more than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. MidAmerican is among the largest transmission owners in the country. For more information visit <http://www.electricttransmissionamerica.com/>.