



Media contact:
Alice Landers,
communication representative
Phone: 785.224.4088 (cell)
alice.landere@westarenergy.com

WESTAR ENERGY TAKES SAFETY TOUR TO KANSAS SCHOOLS

Chad Hymas leads “Reaching the Impossible” bus tour May 3-7

TOPEKA, Kan., April 29, 2010 — Westar Energy is joining Chad Hymas of Chad Hymas Communications, Inc. (www.chadhymas.com) in taking an important safety message to Westar power plants and operations centers, as well as to several Kansas schools, the first week of May.

Considered to be one of the most dynamic motivational safety speakers in the country, Hymas — whose life radically changed following an accident that left him a quadriplegic at age 27 — has spoken to Westar employees about safety on several occasions the past two years. Each time, he has received standing ovations and has helped strengthen the company’s safety culture. An international speaker and a world-class wheelchair athlete, he travels the world speaking to companies about his safety message, highlighting the importance of trust and communication, watching out for each other, giving others our greatest gift – time – and getting out of our comfort zone.

In his “Reaching the Impossible” bus tour, Hymas will address the important issues of the day with students at 45-minute assemblies at various northeastern and central Kansas schools, including the impact of choices, substance abuse, suicide prevention, Internet safety and other

timely topics. Accompanying Hymas will be Westar safety and corporate communications representatives, in addition to some of the company's officers.

“The purpose of Chad's tour is to reinforce safety as the company's No.1 goal,” said Robin Seele, Westar director, safety, training and loss control. “June is National Safety Month, so it's a good time to refocus on safety at work and at home.

“While Chad visits our power plants and operations centers on his tour bus, he also has an important message for teens that we wanted to extend to Kansas schools. We're excited about this opportunity to combine our employees' safety visits with Chad's message to young people.”

Media is invited to participate in the school visits and/or bus trips. A complete tour schedule is attached. To arrange a bus ride, contact Alice Landers at (785) 224-4088. Otherwise, media is welcome to select any of the schools listed on the schedule to cover a visit. For more information on the Reaching the Impossible message, Chad's latest electronic brochure is available at <http://chadhymas.com/pdf/ReachingTheImpossible.pdf>.

- 30 -

Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to about 684,000 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>.

2010 Safety Tour
May 3-7, 2010

Monday, May 3rd

- 7:30 - 8:15** **Topeka Operation Center**
- 9:40 - 10:15** **Tecumseh Energy Center**
- 10:30 - 11:15** **Highland Park High School**
2424 SE California
Topeka – 785-274-6003
Principal – Dale Cushinberry
- 12:30 – 1:15** **Jeffrey Energy Center**
- 2:25 - 3:05** **St. Mary's High School**
St. Mary's, KS
- 3:20- 4:00** **Manhattan Service Center**

Tuesday, May 4th

- 7:30 - 8:15** **Salina Service Center**
- 8:30 - 9:15** **Salina South Middle School**
2040 S. 4th Street
Salina - 785-309-3900
Principle, Beth Morrison
- 9:30 - 10:15** **Salina – Sacred Heart HS**
234 E. Cloud
Salina – 785-827-4422
Principal – John Krajick
- 11:30 - 12:30** **Hutchinson Energy Center**
- 3:30 - 4:00** **Hutchinson Service Center**

Wednesday, May 5th

- 7:30 - 8:15** **Wichita Service Center**
- 9:30 - 10:15** **Campus High School**
2100 W. 55th St. South
Wichita , Ks 67217
316-554-2236
- 11:15 - 12:00** **Gordon Evans Energy Center**
- 12:45 - 1:30** **Wichita GO**
- 3:15 - 4:00** **Emporia Service Center**

Thursday, May 6th

- 8:30 - 9:15** **Ft. Scott Service Center**
- 11:30 - 12:15** **Lawrence Energy Center**
- 3:15- 4:00** **Lawrence Service Center**

Friday, May 7th

- 7:30 – 8:15** **Shawnee Service Center**
- 9:45 – 10:30** **Hayden High School**
Topeka, KS
- 1:00 – 1:45** **Topeka GO**
818 S. Kansas Ave.
- 3:15 – 4:00** **Leavenworth Service Center**