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**WESTAR ENERGY SCHEDULES CONFERENCE CALL
TO DISCUSS FOURTH QUARTER AND YEAR END 2009 RESULTS**

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 25, 2010 – On Feb. 25, 2010, Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE:WR) will release fourth quarter and year end 2009 earnings after market close. On Friday, Feb. 26, 2010, the company will host its quarterly conference call and audio Webcast to discuss the operating results.

- Event:** Westar Energy Year End 2009 Earnings Conference Call and Webcast
- Date:** Feb. 26, 2010
- Time:** 10 a.m. Eastern (9 a.m. Central)
- Location:** 1) Phone conference call at 888-680-0892, participant code 53188848 or
2) Log on to the Webcast at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>

In conjunction with the earnings release and conference call, the company plans to post on its Web site supplemental financial information related to the fourth quarter and year-to-date 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 Feb. 26 through March 10 at 888-286-8010, conference ID #78963596. 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 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>.