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## WESTAR ENERGY EMBARKS ON NEW RELIABILITY INITIATIVE

### Helicopters will survey lines.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 30, 2010 — Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE:WR) announced that in December it will begin surveying selected transmission lines, measuring the height of these lines. The project will involve helicopters flying along routes, sometimes as low as 300 to 350 feet above the ground. Helicopter passengers will use a variety of methods in the project including laser measurement, photography and coordination with teams working on the ground. Work will be performed throughout December in and around Junction City, Lawrence, Lenexa, Manhattan, Olathe, Salina, Topeka and Wichita as well as rural areas. The project is in accordance with North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) requirements.

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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>.

Forward-looking statements: Certain matters discussed in this news release are “forward-looking statements.” The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 has established that these statements qualify for safe harbors from liability. Forward-looking statements may include words like “believe,” “anticipate,” “target,” “expect,” “pro forma,” “estimate,” “intend,” “guidance” or words of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements describe future plans, objectives, expectations or goals. Although Westar Energy believes that its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, all forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty. Therefore, actual results could vary materially from what we expect. Please review our Form 10-K for the period ended Dec. 31, 2009 and our Form 10-Q for the period ended Sept. 30, 2010 for important risk factors that could cause results to differ materially from those in any such forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date such statement was made, and the company does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement was made except as required by applicable laws or regulations.