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**LARGE TRANSFORMER DESTINED FOR WESTAR ENERGY SUBSTATION**

TOPEKA, Kan., Sept. 14, 2012 — A large transformer will be moved Sunday in Johnson County to a new Westar Energy substation. The move, which will take up to 10 hours, will begin about 6 a.m. near 151<sup>st</sup> Street and K-7 highway, proceed to 83<sup>rd</sup> and K-7 and end at a substation near 87<sup>th</sup> Street and Mize Road in Lenexa. The move is scheduled for a Sunday to minimize the impact on local traffic.

When set up for travel, the transformer is 19 feet tall and 18 feet wide. Combined, the truck and trailer moving the transformer are 258 feet long. The maximum travel speed will be 15 miles per hour.

When put into service later this year, the transformer will take electricity from high-voltage 345 kV transmission lines and reduce the voltage to 115 kV for transmission to smaller substations and ultimately delivery to the distribution system that serves homes and businesses in the area.

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Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is Kansas' largest electric utility. For more than a century, we have provided Kansans the safe, reliable electricity needed to power their businesses and homes. Every day our team of professionals takes on projects to generate and deliver electricity, protect the environment and provide excellent service to our nearly 700,000 customers. Westar has 7,100 MW of electric generation capacity fueled by coal, uranium, natural gas, wind and landfill gas. We are also a leader in electric transmission in Kansas. Our innovative customer service programs include mobile-enabled customer care, a smart meter pilot project and paving the way for electric vehicle adoption. Our employees live, volunteer and work in the communities we serve.

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