



PETER L. SUMNERS  
Senior Corporate Counsel

January 4, 2012

Received  
on

JAN 04 2012

by  
State Corporation Commission  
of Kansas

Dr. Michael Schmidt, Director of Utilities  
Mr. Jeff McClanahan, Chief of Accounting & Financial Analysis  
Kansas Corporation Commission  
1500 SW Arrowhead Road  
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Re: Compliance Docket No. 11-WSEE-819-CPL

Dear Dr. Schmidt and Mr. McClanahan:

Pursuant to Section C(3) of the reporting standards adopted by the Commission in its Order dated December 3, 2010 in Docket No. 06-CIMX-181-GIV, please find enclosed a Fitch Ratings report dated December 22, 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "PLS", written over a horizontal line.

Peter L. Sumners

cc: Tom Day, Public Services Executive

# FitchRatings

One State Street Plaza  
New York, NY 10004

T 212 908 0500 / 800 75 FITCH  
www.fitchratings.com

December 22, 2011

Mr. Tony Somma  
Senior Vice President, CFO & Treasurer  
Westar Energy, Inc.  
818 S. Kansas Avenue  
P.O. Box 889  
Topeka, KS 66601

**Re: Initial Rating Letter for Westar Energy, Inc.'s \$1 Billion Commercial Paper Program**

Dear Tony,

Fitch (see definition below) assigns the following ratings:

Westar Energy, Inc.  
Commercial paper program  
'F2'; Stable Outlook

You should notify Fitch within 10 business days if you wish to publish the rating. Fitch will then publicly disseminate the resulting rating and the rating will be monitored. Should you not request that the rating be made public, the rating will be point-in-time only or, subject to agreement with Fitch, monitored on a non-public basis.

In issuing and maintaining its ratings, Fitch relies on factual information it receives from issuers and underwriters and from other sources Fitch believes to be credible. Fitch conducts a reasonable investigation of the factual information relied upon by it in accordance with its ratings methodology, and obtains reasonable verification of that information from independent sources, to the extent such sources are available for a given security or in a given jurisdiction.

The manner of Fitch's factual investigation and the scope of the third-party verification it obtains will vary depending on the nature of the rated security and its issuer, the requirements and practices in the jurisdiction in which the rated security is offered and sold and/or the issuer is located, the availability and nature of relevant public information, access to the management of the issuer and its advisers, the availability of pre-existing third-party verifications such as audit reports, agreed-upon procedures letters, appraisals, actuarial reports, engineering reports, legal opinions and other reports provided by third parties, the availability of independent and competent third-party verification sources with respect to the particular security or in the particular jurisdiction of the issuer, and a variety of other factors.

# Fitch Ratings

Users of Fitch's ratings should understand that neither an enhanced factual investigation nor any third-party verification can ensure that all of the information Fitch relies on in connection with a rating will be accurate and complete. Ultimately, the issuer and its advisers are responsible for the accuracy of the information they provide to Fitch and to the market in offering documents and other reports. In issuing its ratings Fitch must rely on the work of experts, including independent auditors with respect to financial statements and attorneys with respect to legal and tax matters. Further, ratings are inherently forward-looking and embody assumptions and predictions about future events that by their nature cannot be verified as facts. As a result, despite any verification of current facts, ratings can be affected by future events or conditions that were not anticipated at the time a rating was issued or affirmed.

Fitch seeks to continuously improve its ratings criteria and methodologies, and periodically updates the descriptions on its website of its criteria and methodologies for securities of a given type. The criteria and methodology used to determine a rating action are those in effect at the time the rating action is taken, which for public ratings is the date of the related rating action commentary. Each rating action commentary provides information about the criteria and methodology used to arrive at the stated rating, which may differ from the general criteria and methodology for the applicable security type posted on the website at a given time. For this reason, you should always consult the applicable rating action commentary for the most accurate information on the basis of any given public rating.

Ratings are based on established criteria and methodologies that Fitch is continuously evaluating and updating. Therefore, ratings are the collective work product of Fitch and no individual, or group of individuals, is solely responsible for a rating. All Fitch reports have shared authorship. Individuals identified in a Fitch report were involved in, but are not solely responsible for, the opinions stated therein. The individuals are named for contact purposes only.

Ratings are not a recommendation or suggestion, directly or indirectly, to you or any other person, to buy, sell, make or hold any investment, loan or security or to undertake any investment strategy with respect to any investment, loan or security or any issuer. Ratings do not comment on the adequacy of market price, the suitability of any investment, loan or security for a particular investor (including without limitation, any accounting and/or regulatory treatment), or the tax-exempt nature or taxability of payments made in respect of any investment, loan or security. Fitch is not your advisor, nor is Fitch providing to you or any other party any financial advice, or any legal, auditing, accounting, appraisal, valuation or actuarial services. A rating should not be viewed as a replacement for such advice or services.

The assignment of a rating by Fitch does not constitute consent by Fitch to the use of its name as an expert in connection with any registration statement or other filings under US, UK or any other relevant securities laws. Fitch does not consent to the inclusion of its ratings nor this letter communicating our rating action in any offering document.

# Fitch Ratings

The ratings described above are point-in-time. Unless you request these ratings to be made public as described above, they will not be monitored by Fitch and therefore will not be updated to reflect any changed circumstances or information that may affect the ratings assigned. In the event the rating becomes a monitored rating, it will be important that you promptly provide us with all information that may be material to the ratings so that our ratings continue to be appropriate. Ratings may be raised, lowered, withdrawn, or placed on Rating Watch due to changes in, additions to, accuracy of or the inadequacy of information or for any other reason Fitch deems sufficient.

Nothing in this letter is intended to or should be construed as creating a fiduciary relationship between Fitch and you or between Fitch and any user of the ratings.


In this letter, "**Fitch**" means Fitch, Inc. and any subsidiary or successor in interest.

We are pleased to have had the opportunity to be of service to you. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Kevin Beicke at (212) 908-9112.

Sincerely,

Fitch

By:

  
Glen Grabelsky, Managing Director