



Westar Energy requests renewable energy proposals.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 22, 2013 — Westar Energy (NYSE:WR), Kansas' leader in wind energy, is requesting proposals to increase its renewable energy resources by at least 80 megawatts. The utility is looking to enter long-term contracts with one or more renewable energy project developers with the new generation coming online to serve Westar customers by 2016.

“With federal regulation of greenhouse gases coming, good market prices for wind energy and the next milestone for the state’s requirement on the horizon, it’s time to consider adding more renewable energy,” said Mark Ruelle, president and chief executive officer. “If developers submit projects that help us meet these requirements and that are good for our customers, we’ll move forward.”

As part of this request, Westar will offer a portion of its Ironwood development rights in Ford and Hodgeman counties. Developers are free to use their own sites as well. Proposals are due Sept. 13, 2013.

Historically, most renewable energy in Kansas has been wind, but any renewable energy project will be considered if it meets Westar’s objectives. Westar’s ultimate decision to add more renewable resources will hinge on overall cost, reliability, adequate transmission capacity to deliver the energy to its customers, the status of state and federal policy on renewable resources, and regulatory treatment. Westar will give preference to projects in Kansas.

“Kansas winds give projects in the state a natural edge and help support our rural economy,” Ruelle said.

Westar said that key among considerations will be how developers address the interests of local communities, our state’s environment, wildlife and natural resources. Accordingly it said all proposals must adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Kansas Energy Council’s [Wind Energy Siting Handbook](#).

A complete copy of the request for proposals is available at the utility’s website, www.WestarEnergy.com/rfp.

Westar Energy is the state leader in renewable energy with almost 700 MW of renewable resources. The renewable energy sought through this RFP will allow Westar to meet the 2016 requirement under the Kansas renewable energy standard.

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Westar was the first utility in the state to provide wind energy on a commercial scale with a pilot program almost 15 years ago. In 2007, Westar solicited bids for renewable energy projects that culminated in adding nearly 300 MW of wind energy. In 2012 Westar Energy added almost 400 MW from two wind farms. Westar also serves its customers with electricity from a generator that uses landfill gas from Rolling Meadows Landfill north of Topeka.

As a result of its efforts, all Westar Energy customers receive some of their electricity each month from renewable resources. Westar's [RENEW](#) program allows customers to choose to receive more of their electricity from renewable resources.

More details of Westar Energy's renewable energy program are available at www.WestarEnergy.com/renewables.

Photos and video from Westar Energy's wind projects are available at westarenergy.smugmug.com/WindPower.

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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 7,200 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.

For more information about Westar Energy, visit us on the Internet at <http://www.WestarEnergy.com>. Westar Energy is on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/WestarEnergyInc and Twitter: www.Twitter.com/WestarEnergy.

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