Westar Energy.

KEN JOHNSON
Vice President, Generation

October 2, 2009

Stephen Hoffman
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (5304P)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Westar Energy, Jeffrey Energy Center
Reply to Coal Ash Impoundment – Specific Site Assessment Report

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

On September 16, 2009, Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar) received from your office the Final Coal Ash Impoundment – Specific Site Assessment Report dated September 2009 for Westar's Jeffrey Energy Center. Per your request, Westar is providing this response to the report recommendations. Westar agrees that the report recommendations are of the highest priority and in general will act to address each item as quickly and fully as possible. Specific comments and best estimate of schedule for each item follows.

Bottom Ash Lake Dam

Recommendation 1
Westar has already begun developing the appropriate scope of work for this item to be completed by a professional engineering contractor. At this time, Westar plans to have the work fully completed by third quarter 2010.

Recommendations 2, 4, and 5
As of the date of this response, items 2, 4, and 5 have been resolved.

Recommendation 3
Westar has plans to replace the deteriorated rip rap in the discharge spillway. This repair will be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2010. Westar will continue to monitor the rip rap condition in the annual dam inspection performed by Black and Veatch Engineering. Rip rap will be replaced as deemed necessary by the inspection.

Recommendation 6
Westar has monitored and will continue to monitor the upstream slope rip rap condition in the annual dam inspections performed by Black and Veatch Engineering. Rip rap will be replaced as deemed necessary by the inspection.

Bottom Ash Pond Dam

Recommendation 1
The recommended inundation mapping is already planned as part of the overall site's update of the emergency action plan. Per discussion with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Dam Safety, this work is to be completed and submitted to the state by May 3, 2010.

Recommendation 2
Westar has begun discussions with consulting engineers to resolve this item. At this time, Westar plans to have the all issues resolved by third quarter 2010.

Recommendation 3
Westar will de-water and fully inspect the pipe as recommended by the end of the second quarter of 2010. Following this inspection, Westar will take any necessary corrective actions.

Recommendation 4
Westar has monitored and will continue to monitor surface erosion in the annual dam inspection performed by Black and Veatch Engineering. The eroded areas noted in the report have been repaired and will be monitored to determine if rip rap placement is required.

Any New or Additional Monitoring Instruments, Periodic Observations, or Other Methods of Monitoring Project Works or Conditions That May Be Required

The piezometers in question will be evaluated and/or replaced as noted in the recommendation. This work will be completed before the end of the third quarter of 2010. Following repairs, the need for additional studies will be evaluated with Westar's professional engineering consultant.

If there are questions concerning this information, please feel free to contact me at 785-575-1515.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Vice President Generation

Cc: D. Neufeld, Westar Energy, Jeffrey Energy Center
B. Eastman, Westar Energy, Topeka GO
C. Swartzendruber, Westar Energy, Topeka GO
D. Walter, Westar Energy, Topeka GO
A. Evans, Westar Energy, Topeka GO
J. Morrison, Westar Energy, Topeka GO