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WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS Form 8-K December 09, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) December 9, 2011

WESTAR ENERGY, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

KANSAS (State or other jurisdiction

1-3523 (Commission 48-0290150 (IRS Employer

of incorporation or organization)

File Number)

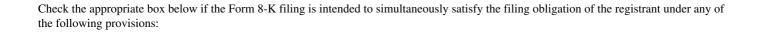
Identification No.)

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818 South Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas (Address of principal executive offices) Registrant s telephone number, including area code (785) 575-6300 66612 (Zip Code)

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)



- " Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

WESTAR ENERGY, INC.

Item 1.01. Entry into a Definitive Agreement.

On December 9, 2011, Westar Energy, Inc. (the Company), entered into a commercial paper program (the Commercial Paper Program) pursuant to which the Company may issue, on a private placement basis, unsecured commercial paper notes (the Notes) up to a maximum aggregate amount outstanding at any time of \$1.0 billion. Under the Commercial Paper Program, the Company may issue the Notes from time to time, and the proceeds of such financings will be used to pay down outstanding balances under the Company s revolving credit facilities, for capital expenditures and for other general corporate purposes. Amounts available under the Commercial Paper Program may be reborrowed. The Notes will bear interest at rates that will vary based on market conditions and the ratings assigned to the Notes by credit rating agencies at the time of issuance.

The Notes will be sold pursuant to the terms and conditions of commercial paper dealer agreements (each, a Dealer Agreement and collectively, the Dealer Agreements) each between the Company and the dealers named therein (collectively, the Dealers). The Dealer Agreements provide the terms under which the Dealers will either purchase from the Company or arrange for the sale by the Company of the Notes pursuant to an exemption from federal and state securities laws. The Dealer Agreements contain customary representations, warranties, covenants and indemnification provisions. The maturities of the Notes will vary, but may not exceed 365 days from the date of issue. The Notes are not redeemable or subject to voluntary prepayment by the Company prior to maturity.

Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant. The information provided in Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 2.03.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Westar Energy, Inc.

Date: December 9, 2011 By: /s/ Larry D. Irick

Name: Larry D. Irick

Title: Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary