

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HITACHI POWER SYSTEMS AMERICA, LTD. AWARDED CONTRACT

FROM WESTAR ENERGY, INC. FOR AN SCR SYSTEM

-- Hitachi environmental technology will help reduce power plant emissions --

BASKING RIDGE, NJ, and Topeka, KS, September, 2011 – Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi America, Ltd., today announced that it has been awarded a contract for the design and supply of a Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) System including Hitachi's proprietary catalyst from Westar Energy, Inc. for its Jeffrey Energy Center, Unit 1, located near St. Marys, Kansas. Terms were not disclosed.

The contract includes the design and supply of a SCR System for the station's 800 MW gross coal fired unit which utilizes Powder River Basin coal as its source of fuel. SCR systems reduce nitrogen oxide emissions, a contributor to the formation of urban ozone and smog. The SCR system being furnished will utilize Hitachi's state-of-the-art catalyst, offering high NO_x removal efficiencies over a wide operating load range. This leading edge technology will help Westar meet or exceed their NO_x reduction requirements, while keeping SO₃ emissions low. This highly reliable system is being designed for continuous operation throughout the year.

Henry Bartoli, president and CEO of Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd. stated, "We are extremely pleased to have been selected by Westar Energy to execute this project and look forward to supporting Westar in their efforts to supply its customers with clean, efficient, low cost electricity. This contract represents another important milestone in the deployment of Hitachi's proven technologies to the U.S. Market and supports our efforts to be an industry leader in the reduction of emissions from power generation facilities."

About Westar Energy, Inc.

Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is the largest electric utility in Kansas, providing electric service to about 687,000 customers in the state. Westar Energy has about 7,100 megawatts of electric generation capacity and operates and coordinates more than 35,000 miles of electric distribution and transmission lines. For more information about Westar Energy, visit us on the Internet at <http://www.westarenergy.com>.

About Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd.

Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi America, Ltd., headquartered in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, is a leading supplier of equipment and services for the Power Generation Market including Thermal, Nuclear and Hydroelectric facilities. Products include advanced Pulverized Coal Boilers, Heat Recovery Steam Generators, Steam, Gas, and Hydro Turbines and Generators, Substation Equipment, and Air Quality Control Systems for new plants and retrofit applications. Hitachi Power Systems America is Hitachi's Global Center of Excellence for the emissions market including Wet Flue Gas Desulfurization, mercury removal systems and SCR technology. Services include operation and plant assessment, engineering studies, performance optimization, emissions improvement, equipment replacement and upgrades. For more information, visit us at <http://www.hitachipowersystems.us>.

About Hitachi America, Ltd.

Hitachi America, Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd. headquartered in Tarrytown, New York, and its subsidiary companies offer a broad range of electronics, power and industrial equipment and services, automotive products and consumer electronics with operations throughout the Americas. For more information, visit www.hitachi-america.us. For information on other Hitachi Group companies in the United States, please visit www.hitachi.us