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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) January 22, 2009 (January 21, 2009)**

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**WESTAR ENERGY, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**KANSAS**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**1-3523**  
(Commission File Number)

**48-0290150**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**818 South Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**66612**  
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (785) 575-6300**

**Not Applicable**

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

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- 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))
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**Section 8. Other Events**

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On January 21, 2009, the Kansas Corporation Commission issued an order in our Kansas retail rate case. The order approved the Stipulation and Agreement that we entered on October 27, 2008 with all parties to the rate case. The order provides for a \$130 million annual increase in rates. This includes a \$65 million annual increase, or approximately 11 percent, in each of our northern and southern rate areas. The new rates will become effective within 30 days of the date of the order, pending the filing and approval of new tariffs reflecting the new rate schedules.

**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: January 22, 2009

By: /s/ Larry D. Irick

Name: Larry D. Irick

Title: Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary