

<b>OMB APPROVAL</b>	
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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>AKIN BRUCE A</u> _____ (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>818 S. KANSAS AVE.</u> _____ (Street) <u>TOPEKA KS 66612</u> _____ (City) (State) (Zip)			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS [ WR ]</u>		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>SVP, Power Delivery</u>	
			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>06/04/2018</u>			
			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00	06/04/2018		A <sup>(1)</sup>		13,803	A	\$0.00	49,664 <sup>(2)</sup>	D	
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00	06/04/2018		A <sup>(3)</sup>		13,241	A	\$0.00	62,905	D	
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00	06/04/2018		F <sup>(4)</sup>		8,899	D	\$55.8925	54,006	D	
Common Stock, Par Value \$5.00	06/04/2018		D <sup>(5)</sup>		54,006	D	\$55.08 <sup>(6)</sup>	0	D	

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Grant of 13,803 restricted share units on 6/4/18 that will vest ratably in one third increments on the anniversary of the grant date.
- The reporting person no longer has a reportable beneficial interest in 26 shares owned by his daughter, which were included in the reporting person's prior ownership reports.
- Vesting of 13,241 performance-based restricted share units that were granted on 2/24/16, 2/26/17 and 2/21/18. Under the terms of the grants of performance-based restricted share units, the number of shares to be received at vesting is increased or decreased based on the Issuer's Total Shareholder Return as compared to the Total Shareholder Return for a defined Peer Group of companies for the defined Performance Period. Under the terms of a merger agreement between Westar Energy, Inc. and Great Plains Energy Incorporated, performance-based restricted share units vest on the merger closing date at the greater of the target award or the actual number based on the performance criteria. The determination that the performance criteria relating to the grant had been met and the calculation of the number of shares to be distributed were completed on 6/4/18.
- Forfeiture of 8,899 shares for the payment of taxes upon the vesting and distribution of 23,356 time-based and performance-based restricted share units granted on 2/24/16, 2/26/17 and 2/21/18.
- Shares of Westar Energy, Inc. stock and the restricted share units granted on 6/4/18 were exchanged for shares of Evergy, Inc. stock and Evergy, Inc. restricted share units pursuant to a merger agreement between Westar Energy, Inc. and Great Plains Energy Incorporated on a 1 to 1 basis.
- Solely for purposes of this filing, the estimated market value per share of Evergy, Inc. common stock on 6/4/18 was \$55.08 per share (the closing stock price of the common stock of Westar Energy, Inc. as reported on the New York Stock Exchange on 6/1/18).

**Remarks:**

Cynthia S. Couch by power of attorney 06/04/2018

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.