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Joan Claybrook, President

July 1, 2003

Charles Q. Chandler, IV
Chairman of the Board, Westar Energy
c/o Intrust Bank
105 N Main St
Box One
Wichita, KS 67201

Dear Mr. Chandler,

Public Citizen today asks Westar's Board of Directors to reaffirm the company's commitment to corporate responsibility by releasing all internal communications relating to the company's efforts to win an exemption from the Investment Company Act in exchange for more than \$50,000 in campaign contributions between May and October 2002. Currently, the board's Special Committee has only released two internal communications related to this potential bribery, but both memos, as well as government records and media reports, strongly suggest the existence of many more such communications between the company's executives, the company's Washington, DC lobbyists and perhaps even Members of Congress. Public Citizen therefore requests that the Board of Directors initiate a company-wide search of all internal communications relating to this matter and release them to the public.

You lead the Special Committee that appropriately released internal communications incriminating several top executives in various illegal and unethical activities. As a result of these and other actions taken under your leadership as Chairman, Westar has begun the long process of recovering from the alleged fraudulent actions by former top executives. But the limited availability of information relating to Westar's influence peddling with Members of Congress raises questions about what is being withheld. There are many unanswered questions that can be addressed only with information in Westar's files. This necessitates that the Board of Directors release all documentation on the issue so that these questions can be addressed.

One of the internal communications already released includes a May 20, 2002 email authored by Douglas T. Lake that mentions an "earlier wittig memo" that is not included in the documents released by the Special Committee. In addition, the May 17, 2002 memo mentions "a budget allocation according to current needs as recommended by our Washington Lobbyist."

These two passages clearly suggest that more internal documents exist. Public Citizen particularly is interested in any and all communications between Westar executives and employees of Governmental Strategies, Inc. and their employees Richard Bornemann, William Kenworthy and Michael Callahan. In addition, any communications between Westar executives and Members of Congress or their staff could be important for shedding light on what appears to be a *quid pro quo* for campaign contributions.

Ralph Nader, Founder

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Jury selection began yesterday for the federal prosecution against former CEO David Wittig. When you were elected Westar's Chairman of the Board in December 2002, Westar president and CEO James S. Haines, Jr. said that "Westar Energy is committed to become a model of good corporate governance. The separation of the chairman of the board and chief executive officer positions is an important step toward the goal." I'm sure you agree that only by fully exposing the fraudulent actions of Wittig and other former top executives can investors be confident that Westar is truly committed to corporate responsibility.

Sincerely,

Tyson Slocum, Research Director
Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy and Environment Program

Cc:

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