

Helicopter Flight Sparks Questions In Atchison

(KAIR)--The continuous, low flying helicopter spotted across Atchison Friday has sparked questions and led to speculation.

However, the small, blue, white, and yellow helicopter is being used by Westar energy for inspection work.

According to a statement from the electric utility, the specially equipped helicopter is flying along sections of Westar's transmission system, capturing images that will “help identify areas that may need maintenance and create a more modern record of the transmission system.”

Kelly Harrison, Vice-President of Transmission, says the flights “provide a more precise and searchable visual record of the transmission system, which improves our efficiency and reliability.”

The flight schedule began last month in south-central Kansas, and has progressed across the state, including the flight above Atchison, viewing both transmission lines and substations.

Many Signals Communications