

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=27933>

Nitrate Issue Addressed in Hiawatha

(KNZA)---The city of Hiawatha has entered into a consent agreement with the state, establishing a timetable for the city to address the high nitrate levels in its water supply system.

The City Commission this week authorized Mayor Crosby Gernon to sign the agreement with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Engineer Brian Kingsley with BG Consultants of Lawrence told commissioners the agreement gives the city 120 days to submit a memorandum to the KDHE for their review and approval, summarizing how the city plans to achieve compliance with EPA regulations.

Over the years, the city has exceeded the maximum contaminant level for nitrates of 10 milligrams per liter in its water system.

The commission approved a supplemental engineering agreement with Kingsley for the development of a computer-generated model of the city's water distribution system that will be used in the process of looking at options for addressing the nitrate issue. The supplement agreement is for a additional maximum fee of \$31,212.

Many Signals Communications