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Hiawatha Given Permission to Drill on County Right-of-Ways

(KNZA)--The city of Hiawatha continues efforts to find a new low nitrate water source north of the city.

City Administrator Mike Nichols met with the Brown County Commission Monday to request permission for the city to drill test wells on county right-of-ways, which the commission voted unanimously to grant.

Nichols said one of the test wells would be near the intersection of 270th and Prairie Roads.

The Hiawatha City Commission earlier this month accepted a proposal from Falls City-based Drill Well LLC for the drilling of two test wells.

The commission was told engineers have defined two locations where they want to sink a five-inch casing, and pump about four million gallons of water to confirm the amount of water and nitrate level.

The city of Hiawatha is under a consent order from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to address the nitrates in its water supply system, which at times over the years has exceeded the maximum level allowed.

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