Why You Should Read This: The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a State Revolving Fund project. As part of the environmental review, you are entitled to provide comments. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision-making process.

IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

January 8, 2025

To: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups

An environmental review has been performed based on the procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for the proposed agency action below:

Applicant: City of Sioux Center
County: Sioux
State: Iowa

SRF Number: FS-84-26-DWSRF-041
Iowa DNR Project Number: W2025-0579

The City of Sioux Center, Iowa is planning an upgrade to their drinking water infrastructure. The city has applied for financial assistance through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program to build the project. The State Revolving Loan Program is a program authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in partnership with the Iowa Finance Authority. This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF.

The City of Sioux Center is located in Sioux County, Iowa approximately 236 miles northwest of Des Moines, Iowa and 56 miles southeast of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The population of Sioux Center according to the 2020 US Census was 8,229. The design population equivalent for the year 2065 is 12,877.

Sioux Center acquires water from four different sources: two separate well fields, Rural Water System #1 (RWS#1), and Lewis and Clark Regional Water System (L&C). The Cities West Well Field draws water from the buried sand and gravel aquifer and is composed of four deep wells ranging from 343 – 360 feet in depth. These four wells are the most recently drilled wells for the City and produce a total of 1200 gallons-per-minute (gpm). Well #15 is the oldest out of these wells, being drilled in 2005. Conversely, Well #14 is the newest and was redrilled in 2022. The City's East Well Field is composed of 11 shallow wells that draw water from an alluvial aquifer. These wells range from 38 – 49 feet in depth. These wells are capable of producing 800-1200 gpm. Three of these wells are positively impacted by low head dams that have been installed in narrow waterways in the area.

The City began purchasing water from RWS#1 in 2010. Since 2020, purchases have averaged approximately 2.5 million gallons per month. Purchases have averaged approximately 80,000 gallons per day in this time, however, the City's contract with RWS#1 allows them to buy up to 300,000 gallons per day. The City began purchasing water from L&C in April of 2023. Since then, purchases have averaged 500,000 gallons per day.

Contract capacity with L&C is currently 600,000 gallons per day with an upcoming expansion to add 349,000 gallons per day.

Sioux Center's water treatment plant is located at the eastern central part of the City. Treatment is conventional filtration for iron and manganese removal. Ammonia is added to the water to provide a combined chlorine concentration similar to that of the Lewis and Clark water that the City purchases. The water treatment plant is rated at 1,750 gpm or 2.3 million-gallons-per-day (MGD) (22 hours). Total supply capacity between water purchase agreements and the water treatment plant is 3.2 MGD and will increase to 3.549 MGD upon receiving the L&C expansion capacity. Pumping at the water treatment plant consists of two 1,200 gpm pumps and one 500 gpm pump providing a firm capacity of 1,700 gpm (2.45 MGD).

Treated water is pumped into a single pressure zone through a network of transmission mains. The distribution system is comprised of 4" diameter through 12" diameter mainlines with a small segment of 18" around the North water tower. Sioux Center has continued to upgrade and expand its distribution system as needs arise or as areas of town develop or need to be reconstructed. The older mainline pipes in town are predominantly cast iron.

Effective storage under the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) standards is the amount of storage available to the system water demands, either by gravity from an elevated tank or by pumping from a ground storage reservoir if standby power is provided. Two elevated storage tanks provide a combined 650,000 gallons of finished water storage. The West Elevated Tank is a 150,000-gallon spheroid tank. It is located on the corner of 9th Street and 2nd Avenue. The City's North Elevated Tank is a 500,000-gallon fluted column that is located north of the corner of 15th Street and 4th Avenue. Sioux Center's WTP clearwell consists of two cells: the South Cell holding 245,000 gallons and the North Cell holding 195,000 gallons, totaling 440,000 gallons of capacity. When full, the water depth reaches 13 feet, with each foot representing approximately 33,850 gallons. However, due to Iowa DNR regulations requiring a minimum of 4 feet of water in the clearwell for contact time (CT) disinfection, only the volume above that level is considered available storage. The WTP includes backup power generation. Therefore, the City's clearwells provide an additional 300,000 gallons of effective storage. Combining the effective storage provided by the 150,000-gallon West Tower, the 500,000-gallon North Tower, and the 300,000 gallons that are available from the clearwells, the City has a total effective storage of 950,000 gallons.

The West Tower was most recently inspected in 2022 with no significant deficiencies noted. The North Tower exterior was recoated in 2018 and at that time the interior was in good condition. It is expected that the West Tower may someday be decommissioned due to the greater cost of maintenance per gallon of storage. The 10 State Standards that the Iowa Department of Natural Resources follows require a water system's effective storage volume to be greater than the service area's average daily demand, and to be able to maintain a turnover time of five days or less. The City's projected average day demand in the design year of 2065 is 1,730,000 gallons. Compared to the effective storage that will be available in 2065 if no improvements are made, the City will be in a 930,000-gallon storage deficit. In response, it is recommended that storage improvements be considered.

The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the drinking water storage system to enhance their reliability and increase capacity to safely and reliably operate the City of Sioux Center's drinking water system for the next 40 years.

The proposed project includes the construction of a new elevated water storage tank, access road, all necessary appurtenances & connections. Also proposed is the installation of approximately 430 LF of new water main from the storage tank to existing infrastructure.

The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population. The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies. Impacts to wetlands are not anticipated. The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act may apply and other wildlife conservation laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes. Impacts to the 100-year flood plain are not anticipated.
The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.

Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF. As such, this project is not considered a federal undertaking as defined in §300320 under the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq. for the purpose of the SRF environmental review. If this SRF project receives federal funds from other sources, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all federal requirements are met for that funding. If project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c"). The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.

Minimum separation distances will be maintained. Noise during construction will be maintained at tolerable levels through controls on construction activities. Any construction debris will be removed from the site for proper disposal. Adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized with proper construction practices, inspection, prompt clean up and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored.

It has been determined that the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to the surrounding environment. This determination is based on a careful review of the engineering report, the environmental assessment and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Natural Resources' office in Des Moines, Iowa. These are available for public review upon request. A copy of the environmental assessment is attached. This Department will not take any administrative action on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the above date. Persons disagreeing with the above environmental decision may submit

comments to the department during this period. Your comments can be sent to SRF-PC@dnr.iowa.gov or directly to me at Nicole.Osborn@dnr.iowa.gov or (515) 321-7601.

Sincerely,

Nicole Osborn Digitally signed by Nicole Osborn Date: 2026.01.08 08:39:32 -06'00'

Nicole Osborn
Environmental Specialist
6200 Park Ave, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50321

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment Document
Project Map

Distribution List (email):
Logan Smidt, DGR Engineering
Edward Boling, Council on Environmental Quality
Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Ken Sharp, Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Mindy Wells, Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Chad Sands, Iowa Economic Development Authority
Alicia Vasto, Iowa Environmental Council
Michael Schmidt, Iowa Environmental Council
Tony Toigo, Iowa Finance Authority
Lee Wagner, Iowa Finance Authority
Yolanda Attaway, Iowa Finance Authority
Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities
Jane Clark, Sierra Club
Josh Mandelbaum, Environmental Law and Policy Center
Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development
Tokey Boswell, USDOI, National Park Service, Midwest Region
Kraig McPeek, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office
Ann D'Alfonso, USEPA Region VII
The N'West Iowa REVIEW

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IOWA™
State Revolving Fund

IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Sioux Center
County: Sioux
State: Iowa

SRF Number: FS-84-26-DWSRF-041
Iowa DNR Project Number: W2025-0579

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Sioux Center is located in Sioux County, Iowa approximately 236 miles northwest of Des Moines, Iowa and 56 miles southeast of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Population: The population of Sioux Center according to the 2020 US Census was 8,229. The design population equivalent for the year 2065 is 12,877.

Current Source of Water: Sioux Center acquires water from four different sources: two separate well fields, Rural Water System #1 (RWS#1), and Lewis and Clark Regional Water System (L&C). The Cities West Well Field draws water from the buried sand and gravel aquifer and is composed of four deep wells ranging from 343 – 360 feet in depth. These four wells are the most recently drilled wells for the City and produce a total of 1200 gallons-per-minute (gpm). Well #15 is the oldest out of these wells, being drilled in 2005. Conversely, Well #14 is the newest and was redrilled in 2022.

The City's East Well Field is composed of 11 shallow wells that draw water from an alluvial aquifer. These wells range from 38 – 49 feet in depth. These wells are capable of producing 800-1200 gpm. Three of these wells are positively impacted by low head dams that have been installed in narrow waterways in the area.

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Current Water Treatment and Quality: Sioux Center's water treatment plant is located at the eastern central part of the City. Treatment is conventional filtration for iron and manganese removal. Ammonia is added to the water to provide a combined chlorine concentration similar to that of the Lewis and Clark water that the

City purchases. The water treatment plant is rated at 1,750 gpm or 2.3 million-gallons-per-day (MGD) (22 hours). Total supply capacity between water purchase agreements and the water treatment plant is 3.2 MGD and will increase to 3.549 MGD upon receiving the L&C expansion capacity. Pumping at the water treatment plant consists of two 1,200 gpm pumps and one 500 gpm pump providing a firm capacity of 1,700 gpm (2.45 MGD).

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the drinking water storage system to enhance their reliability and increase capacity to safely and reliably operate the City of Sioux Center's drinking water system for the next 40 years.

Proposed Improvements: The proposed project includes the construction of a new elevated water storage tank, access road, all necessary appurtenances & connections. Also proposed is the installation of approximately 430 LF of new water main from the storage tank to existing infrastructure.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: Several alternatives were considered that could address the community's need for expanding the storage capacity for the water supply system.

Alternative 1: New Elevated Storage Tank – Alternative 1 consists of construction of a new elevated tank. The City's current effective storage is 950,000 gallons, and it is expected to decrease to 800,000 gallons after the West Tower is taken out of service. Meanwhile, the City's average day demand in 2024 was 980,000 gallons, which is already exceeding their effective storage. Average day demand is expected to increase to 1,730,000 by the design year 2065, pushing the City into a storage deficit of 930,000 gallons. As a result, additional storage should be pursued. The project will be bid to include 750,000-gallon and 1,000,000-gallon options. The tower will be constructed with a HWL of 1580', approximately 23' taller than the existing North and West elevated tanks to provide improved pressure to the system. For the short term, the tank will operate 40-43% full and provide 320,000-430,000 gallons of storage, meeting the average day storage requirements. As demands increase in the next 5- 10 years, the North Tower will be raised 23' to match the 1,580' HWL such that the new elevated tank will be completely utilized.

Alternative 2: New Ground Storage Reservoirs – Alternative 2 consists of the construction of additional ground storage is an option, but elevated storage is preferential in the event of an emergency and having two elevated storage tanks provides redundancy when maintenance is required. For these reasons the alternative was not considered.

Alternative 3: No Action – This alternative would utilize existing infrastructure with no proposed construction improvements. The system's water storage would continue to be undersized, and the City would be at risk of failing to reliably supply water to their customers. Several problems can arise if a city is unable to provide sufficient effective storage. First, the system may not be able to meet demand during high-usage periods. This can lead to low water pressures, which may propose a health risk to the community if pressures are insufficient to keep contaminants out of the water system. Second, regulatory compliance issues may arise, especially if minimum water levels required for proper disinfection are not maintained, compromising water quality. Third, operational efficiency can be expected to decrease, as treatment plants may need to cycle pumps and processes more frequently, increasing O&M costs.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: Alternative 1 was selected as was the most effective solution for addressing storage capacity for both current and future population.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Public Involvement: A public hearing was held on December 23, 2025 at 4:00PM at the City's regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was made available by publication in The N'West Iowa REVIEW November 22, 2025 and posted in public locations on November 22, 2025. The purpose of this hearing was to present the environmental and financial impacts of the proposed improvement project. No written or oral comments were received.

Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups: The following Federal, state and local agencies may be provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

Flandreau Santee Sioux
Ho-Chunk Nation
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Otoe-Missouria Tribe
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Prairie Island Indian Community
Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma
Santee Sioux Nation
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Spirit Lake Tribal Council
Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
Upper Sioux Tribe
Winnebago Tribal Council
Yankton Sioux Tribe

No adverse comments have been received from any agencies or general public to date. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Construction: Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff.

Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

Historical/Archaeological: Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF. As such, this

project is not considered a federal undertaking as defined in §300320 under the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq. for the purpose of the SRF environmental review. If this SRF project receives federal funds from other sources, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all federal requirements are met for that funding.

However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project area, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

Environmental: The project area was screened for the presence of wetlands, floodplains, and sovereign lands. Impacts to wetlands are not anticipated. The proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa.

Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation is not required for this non-federal SRF project. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act may apply and other wildlife conservation laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. Impacts to flood plains are not anticipated. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity.

Land Use and Trends: The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential. 0.83 acres of farmland will be permanently removed from production. Further investigation of the farmland conversion impact is not required for this environmental review as this project is not a federal undertaking for SRF.

This project should not impact population trends as the presence or absence of existing water/sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources: Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction.

Nondiscrimination: All programs, projects, and activities undertaken by DNR in the SRF programs are subject to federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments of 1972. These laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Positive environmental effects will be maintained or possibly improved water quality in Sioux Center. The new elevated storage tank will keep the City of Sioux in compliance with department requirements and will better assist in the prevention of water supply contamination associated with inadequate pressures within the distribution system. A catastrophic loss of water supply could result in City-wide health impacts due to a lack of sanitation and the use of other water sources that may not meet Federal drinking water standards.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- Impacts to wetlands are not anticipated.
- The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act may apply and other wildlife conservation laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.
- Impacts to the 100-year flood plain are not anticipated.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project.
- This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF. As such, this project is not considered a federal undertaking as defined in §300320 under the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq. for the purpose of the SRF environmental review. If this SRF project receives federal funds from other sources, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all federal requirements are met for that funding.
- If project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c").
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.

THEREFORE:

The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 44.10(3) *drinking water relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. This Environmental Assessment Document (EAD) outlines the justification that the environmental review for the proposed project should be classified as a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and does not rise to the significance of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with 40 CFR § 1501.5.

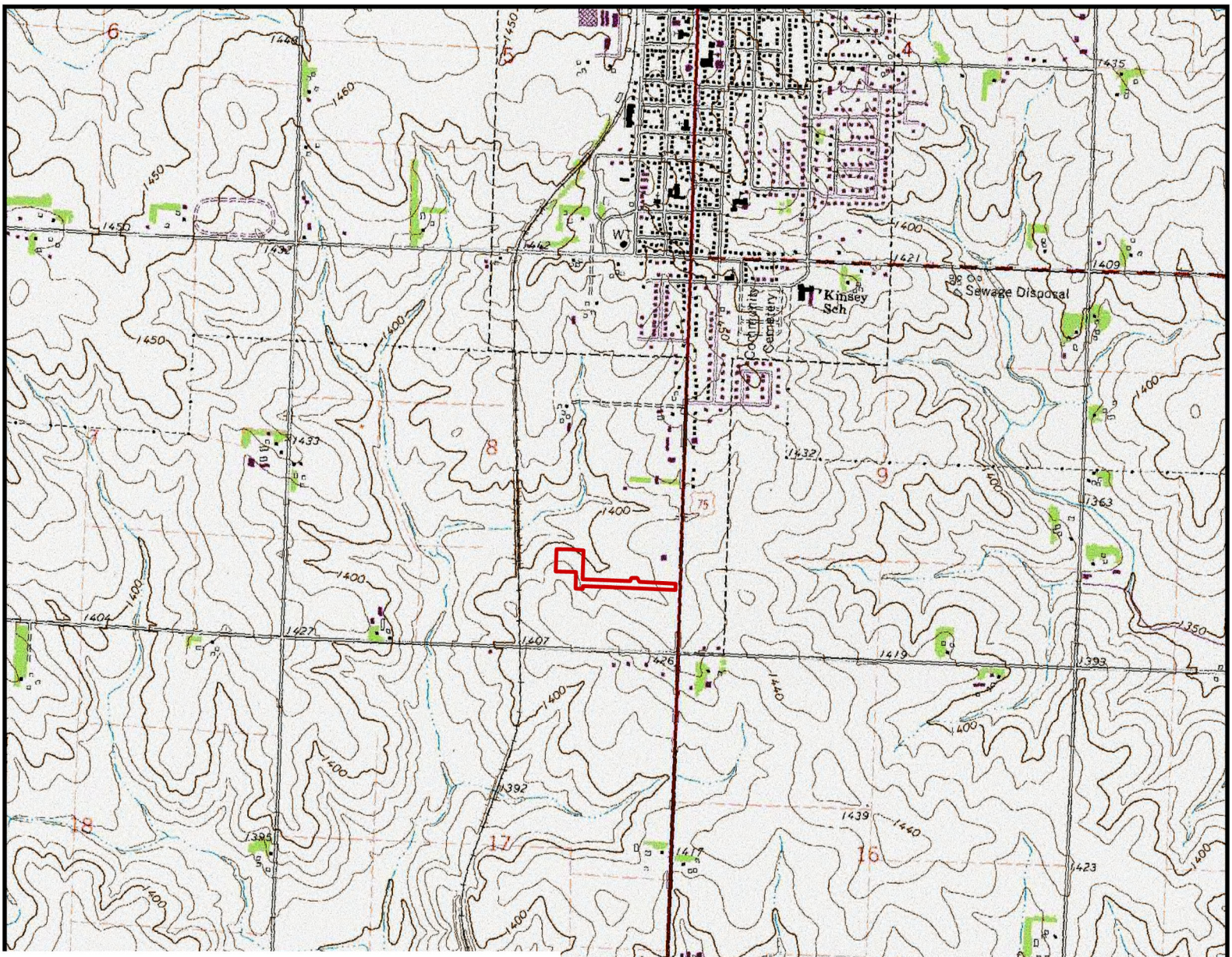
Nicole Osborn Digitally signed by Nicole Osborn
Date: 2026.01.08 08:38:53 -06'00'

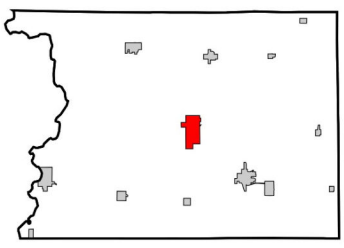
Nicole Osborn
Environmental Review Specialist
State Revolving Fund
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

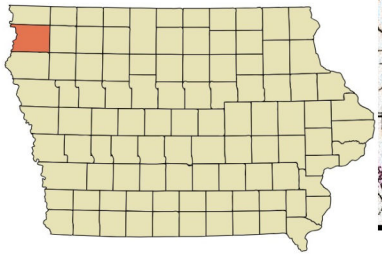
IOWA
State Revolving Fund

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Sioux Center
Section: 08, Township: 95 N, Range: 45 W
Date: 1980

N







Sioux County. Image source: Wikipedia, 2025.

Sioux Center - South Water Tower Project
Sioux Center, IA (Sioux County, Iowa)

Legend

Project Area

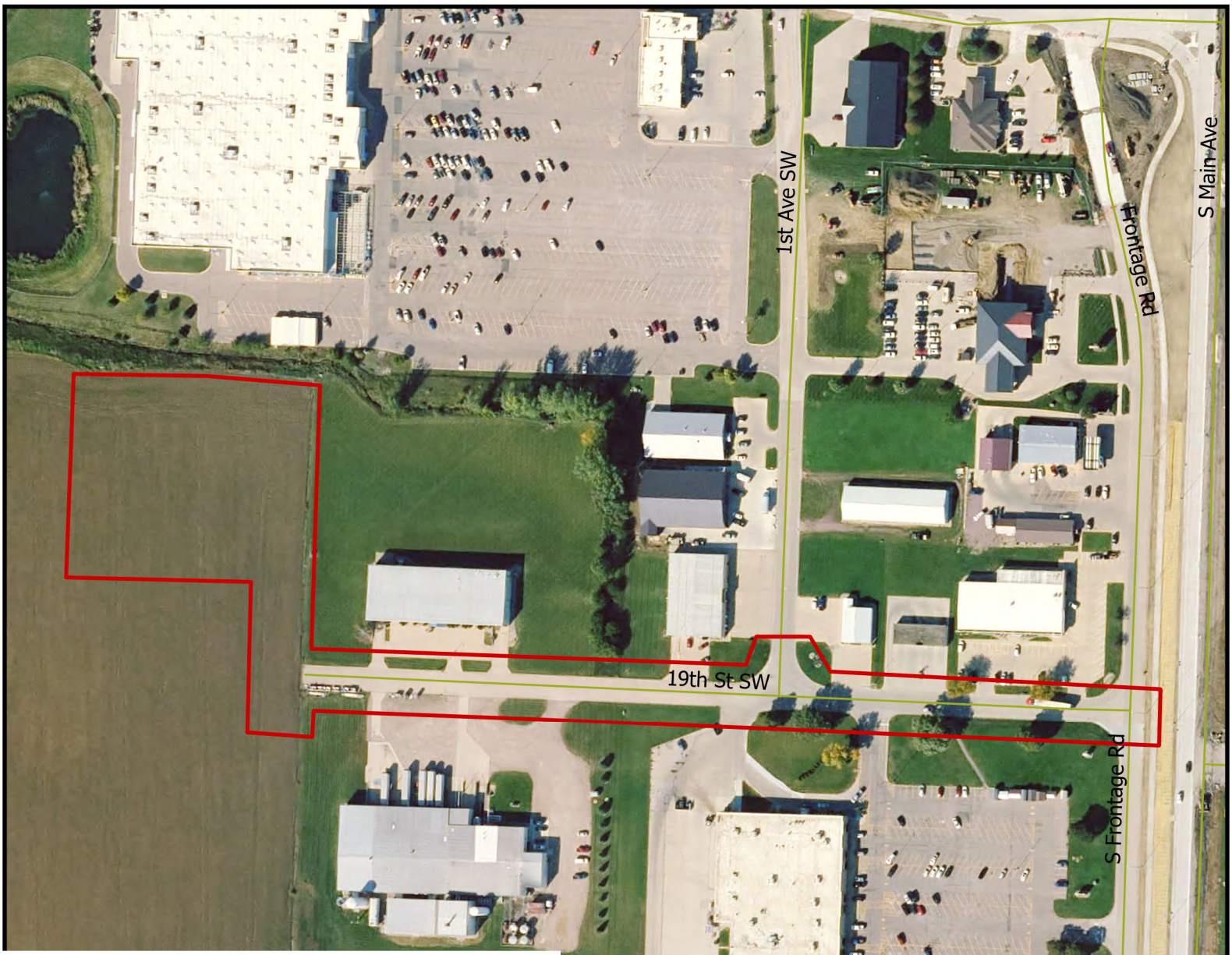
Scale:1:24,000

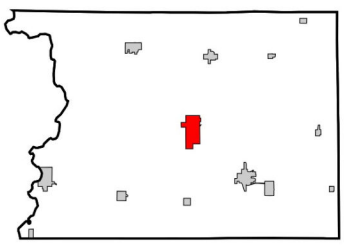
0 990 1,980 2,970 3,960 4,950 Feet

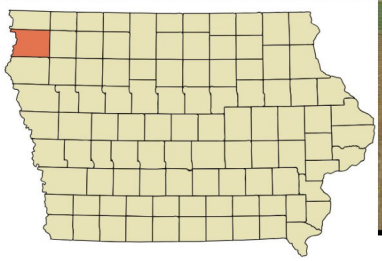
IOWA
State Revolving Fund

2023 Aerial

N







Sioux County. Image source: Wikipedia, 2025.

Sioux Center - South Water Tower Project
Sioux Center, IA (Sioux County, Iowa)

Legend

Project Area

Scale:1:2,631

0 100 200 300 400 500 Feet