



## Indianola's \$34.5 million water plant gains DNR approval, lawsuit still pending

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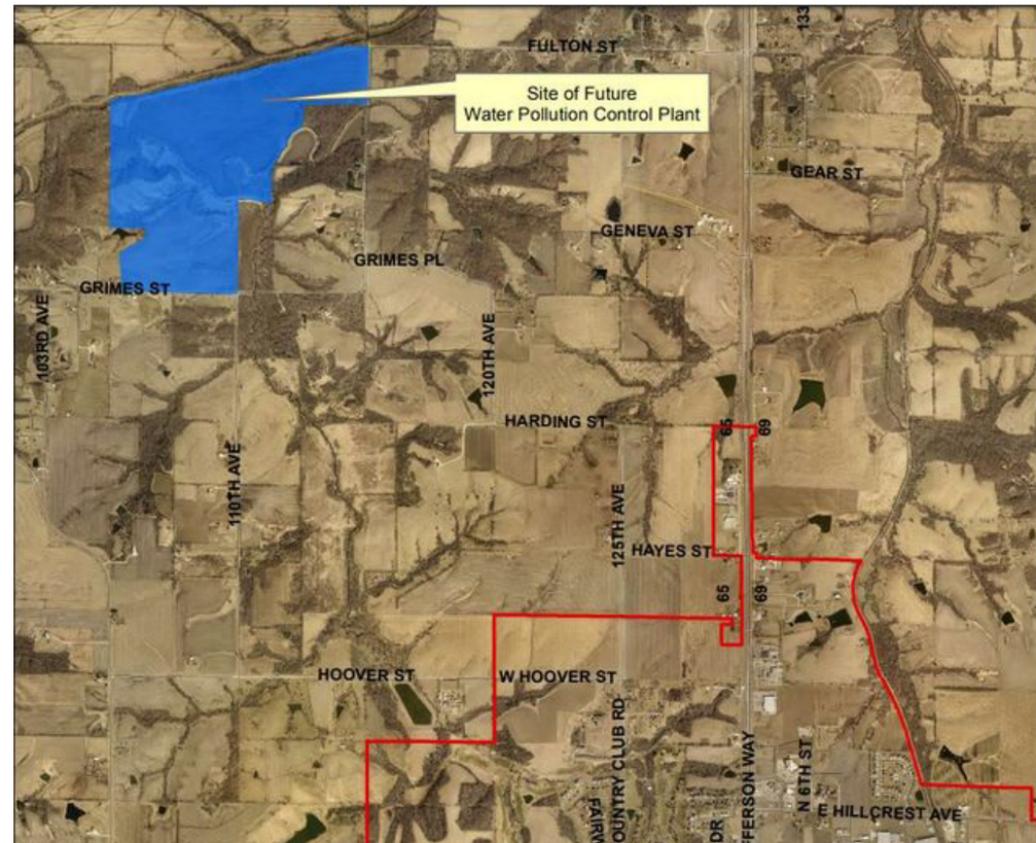


The Iowa Department of Natural Resources approved a site plan for Indianola's proposed \$34.5 million waste water treatment plant.

The city wants to build the facility on 18 acres northwest of the city limits near the intersection of Grimes Street and 110th Avenue. It would replace an existing water treatment facility at 1180 Hoover St.

However, [residents living near the proposed site](#) petitioned Warren County to block the project. Last fall, the [Board of Adjustment](#) voted down the city's request for a special use permit.

Indianola filed a petition with the Iowa 5th Judicial District Court of Warren County in December. It asked the court to set aside the Board of Adjustment's decision, declare the board “acted illegally by denying the application” and direct the county to issue the special use permit.



A scheduling hearing in the case is scheduled for May 21 in Warren County.

Meanwhile, the city is moving forward with its plans for the water treatment facility.

The DNR site plan approval said the facility meets Iowa setback regulations. It would be 1,050 feet from the closest home. The state requires a distance of at least 1,000 feet.

“The site approval is preliminary and that further detailed engineering investigations may warrant additional considerations in the future,” the DNR said in its site approval letter.

Indianola City Manager Ryan Waller said the next step is to secure DNR approval of the plant's facility plan. After that, the city will also move forward with design and construction plans, easements and construction bidding, he said.