

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

November 18, 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 Carson

County: Pottawattamie

State: Iowa

SRF Number: FS-78-26-DWSRF-003

Iowa DNR Project Number: W2023-0546

The City of Carson, 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 Carson is located in Pottawattamie County, Iowa approximately 40 miles east of Omaha Nebraska and 112 miles southwest of Des Moines, Iowa. The population of Carson according to the 2020 US Census was 766. The design population equivalent for the year 2043 is 859.

The City of Carson currently operates four water supply wells. Three of these wells are fairly shallow and produce approximately 25 gallons-per-minute (gpm) from each well. The fourth well is approximately 155 feet deep, located within the Dakota aquifer, and produces approximately 125 gpm. Water produced from these wells is typically hard and high in iron and manganese, but when properly treated at the water treatment plant. The City operates an aging water treatment plant. The current treatment process includes pumping water from the wells to the water treatment plant. Potassium Permanganate is injected into the water to oxidize the iron and manganese. The water passes through an aeration tower into a ground level detention tank and high service pumps pull the water from the detention tank and push it through the filters. The filtered water is injected with fluoride for dental health and chlorine for disinfection.

The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the water supply system to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system to safely and reliably operate the City of Carson's drinking water for the next 20 years. The proposed project includes the drilling of a new well, the construction of new control equipment at the well site, the installation of a new water main from the well to existing

infrastructure, and all necessary connections & appurtenances. The proposed project also includes land acquisition.

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. The project will not impact wetlands. The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats. 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. The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain. 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
Environmental Specialist
6200 Park Ave, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50321

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment Document
Project Map

Distribution

List (email): Synder & Associates
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
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Alicia Vasto, Iowa Environmental Council
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Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities
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Josh Mandelbaum, Environmental Law and Policy Center
Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development
Tokey Boswell, USDOl, National Park Service, Midwest Region
Kraig McPeck, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office
Ann D'Alfonso, USEPA Region VII
Kelly Beard-Tittone, USEPA Region VII
The Herald

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IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Carson
County: Pottawattamie
State: Iowa

SRF Number: FS-78-26-DWSRF-003
Iowa DNR Project Number: W2023-0546

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Carson is located in Pottawattamie County, Iowa approximately 40 miles east of Omaha Nebraska and 112 miles southwest of Des Moines, Iowa.

Population: The population of Carson according to the 2020 US Census was 766. The design population equivalent for the year 2043 is 859.

Current Source of Water: The City of Carson currently operates four water supply wells. Three of these wells are fairly shallow and produce approximately 25 gallons-per-minute (gpm) from each well. The fourth well is approximately 155 feet deep, located within the Dakota aquifer, and produces approximately 125 gpm. Water produced from these wells is typically hard and high in iron and manganese, but when properly treated at the water treatment plant.

Current Water Treatment and Quality: The City of Carson operates an aging water treatment plant. The current treatment process includes pumping water from the wells to the water treatment plant. Potassium Permanganate is injected into the water to oxidize the iron and manganese. The water passes through an aeration tower into a ground level detention tank and high service pumps pull the water from the detention tank and push it through the filters. The filtered water is injected with fluoride for dental health and chlorine for disinfection.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the water supply system to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system to safely and reliably operate the City of Carson's drinking water for the next 20 years.

Proposed Improvements: The proposed project includes the drilling of a new well, the construction of new control equipment at the well site, the installation of a new water main from the well to existing

infrastructure, and all necessary connections & appurtenances. The proposed project also includes land acquisition.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: The “No-Action” alternative would leave the City of Carson’s water supply system vulnerable as the system ages & deteriorates.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: The City of Carson currently operates and maintains a water supply system that has been shown to be safe and reliable. The No-Action alternative is not viable as it could pose risks to health and safety of residents of the City of Carson.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Public Involvement: A public hearing was held on November 10, 2025 at 7:30PM at the City’s regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was made available by publication in The Herald on October 8th and placed on the City website on October 1st, 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:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section
- Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
- 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 Tribal Council
- 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 Tribal Business and Claims Committee

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 and floodplains 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. 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 areas. Approximately 4.33 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 water quality for the citizens of Carson. 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.
- The project will not impact wetlands.
- The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats. 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.
- The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain.
- 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.

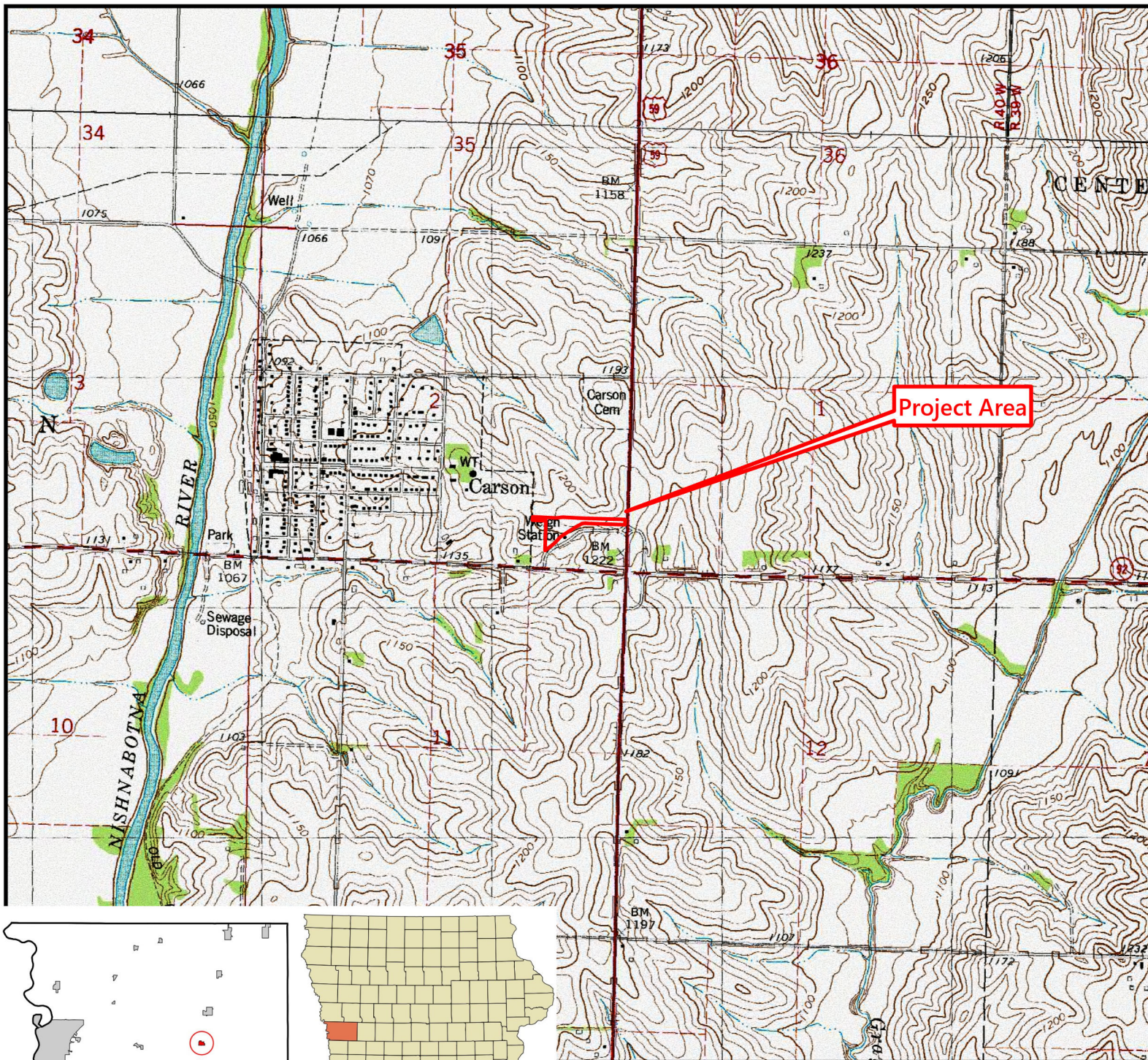
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- If project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should 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

Environmental Review Specialist
State Revolving Fund
Iowa Department of Natural Resources



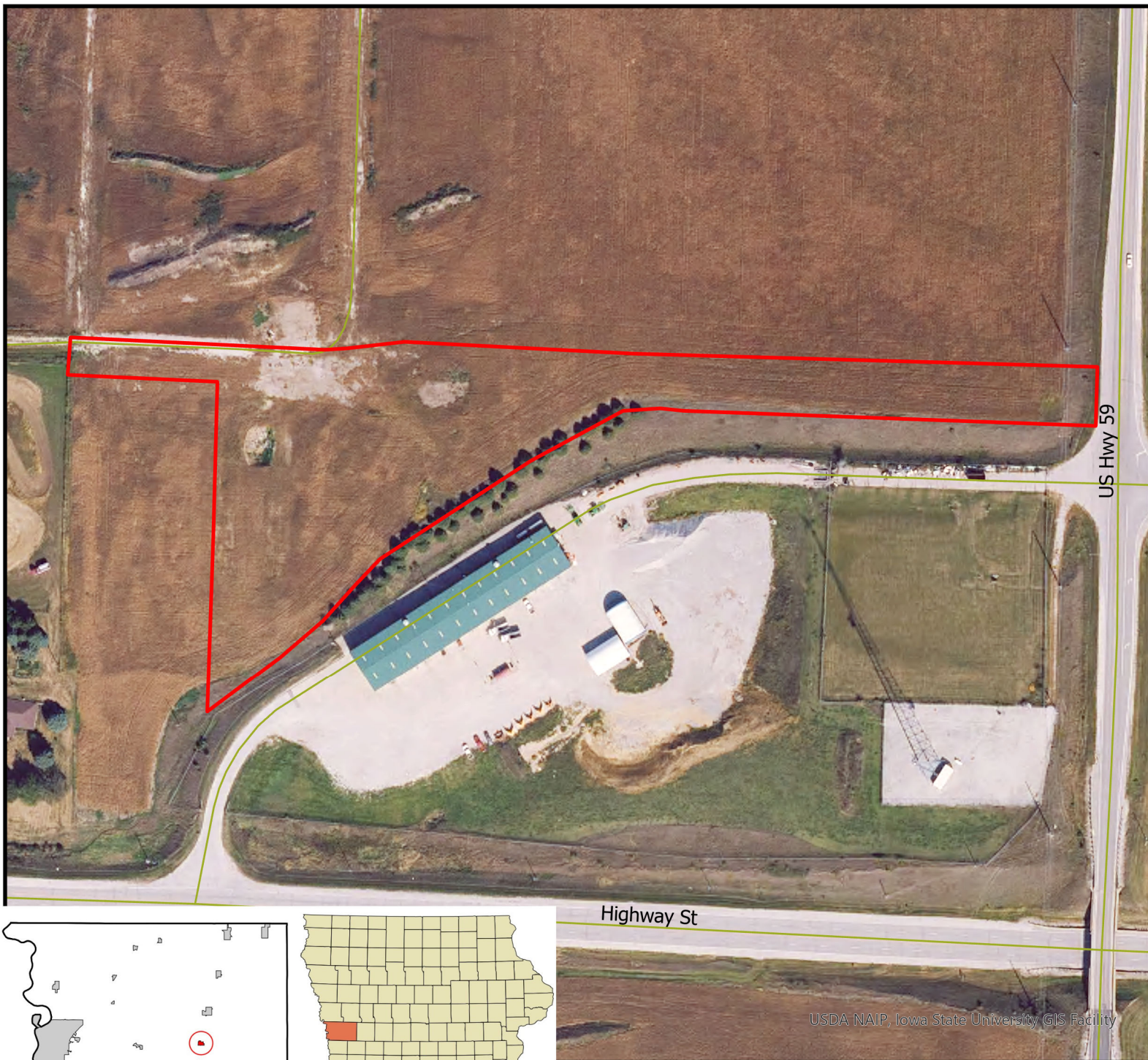
Pottawattamie County. Image source: Wikipedia, 2025.

Carson Well Project
Carson, IA (Pottawattamie County, Iowa)

Legend
 Project Area

Scale: 1:24,000






USDA NAIP, Iowa State University GIS Facility

Pottawattamie County. Image source: Wikipedia, 2025.

Carson Well Project
Carson, IA (Pottawattamie County, Iowa)

Legend
 Project Area

Scale: 1:2,164

