

Dear Chairman and members of the Local Government Committee

I am writing to you in regards to SB146. I am opposed to SB 146 in its current form. My self and many other Miami County Citizens would support it only if amended to include protections that prohibits data center development on the conveyed land. As well as prohibiting future solar farms and wind mill farms. Along with prohibition from annexation by the city. I will elaborate why in the following paragraphs.

The northland property that is up for consideration in this bill, was annexed by the city of Osawatomie. There is and has been a moratorium on solar and wind farms within the county. The city of Osawatomie was able to annex this unincorporated county property and placed it under (municipal) jurisdiction and zoning regulations to potentially avoid or circumvent a county-level moratorium on this land.

The city was able to partner with Evergy and they made the solar farm happen even with the moratorium set by the county. The solar farm is on a tract of land that is included in this bill.

My concern is with the remaining land that is being discussed in this bill.

The Miami County Republic, which is a local newspaper, did an article regarding the data center potentially going on one of these tracks of properties. Which was the first time most of Miami County citizens were made aware of this project.

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 **Miami County Republic** Jan 23 · 🌐

Osawatomie City Council members have approved a preliminary development agreement that offers incentives for data centers to be built on the city's Northland property.

<https://www.republic-online.com/development-agreement-approved-for-data-centers-in-osawatomies-northland/>



The roads around these properties are mainly county maintained. The properties surrounding these tracks are mainly pasture grounds and homes of county residents not city residents. Since Osawatomie has home rule over this land being annexed, (WE) rural folks have no say in what the city does with this land. Bringing in these data centers means tearing out the brink road in front of the State Hospital to be able to accommodate all of the construction traffic. So many questions. Does all of this fall on the county tax payers who have no say in any of this.

There has been **NO** open discussion made by the city with its residents regarding what their thoughts are. The city is already struggling with their water plant and are trying to build a huge plant to accommodate something huge. Assumptions are it would be for the data center. There are many concerns regarding the wastewater and electrical issues. As Osawatomie already has power issues and the residents loose power multiple times a year without the added constraint and all while having the opportunity to buy from the local solar array. I am sharing screenshots from the local Osawatomie City page

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City of Osawatomi, KS  
Aug 8, 2025

Crews are working a water leak in the 300 block of Reed Avenue. Residents in the area will have little to no water pressure while crews perform the necessary repair.

This message is also being distributed via the City of Osawatomi "General Alerts" TextMyGov subscription group. To receive future alerts, text OZGENERAL to phone number 91896 and opt-in.



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City of Osawatomi, KS

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City of Osawatomi, KS  
Dec 7, 2025

City of Osawatomi utility crew members are responding to a water leak in the 1700 block of Parker Avenue on a 10-inch water line.

LINK:  
<https://www.osawatomiaks.org/home/news/water-leak-reported-parker-avenue>



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City of Osawatomi, KS  
Dec 5, 2025

Weekend Update - December 5, 2025



City of Osawatomie, KS

Sep 4, 2025

A water leak in the 1600 block of Parker Avenue will be repaired this afternoon and work will impact all City of Osawatomie water services west of 12th Street. Lower than normal water pressure to no water at all is possible for the duration of the repair, which is expected to begin at 3:15pm and last approximately four hours.

READ MORE:

<https://www.osawatomiaks.org/home/news/water-work-impacting-west-osawatomie>



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City of Osawatomie, KS



City of Osawatomie, KS

Oct 20, 2025

For more than 80 years, our water treatment plant has served the community—but it's now showing its age. Equipment is failing, waterlines are deteriorating, and federal regulations are getting stricter.

Beginning in 2021, we carefully studied all options with engineers, financial experts, and a committee of residents. The result? The City Council decided to build a new water treatment plant and secure federal funding to update both treatment and distribution systems.

We've heard your questions, so we created a four-part series to walk you through the process, step by step:

- Why a New Water Plant – Learn the history and challenges that led to this decision
- Options Explored – See the alternatives we considered
- Common Questions – Answers to the questions residents have asked
- Project Updates – Stay up to date on the plant and distribution improvements

Start the series here:

<https://www.osawatomiaks.org/development/osawatomie-water-plant-project>

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**City of Osawatometie, KS**  
Mar 31, 2025

**Water Leak Notice for 500 Block of Brown Avenue** - Lower than normal water pressure or no water at all possible for surrounding neighborhoods while crews make repair.

This notice is being distributed via City of Osawatometie social media, our official website, and the City's TextMyGov "General Alerts" subscription line.

LINK:  
<https://www.osawatometieks.org/home/news/water-leak-under-repair>



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**City of Osawatometie, KS**  
Apr 15, 2025 · Updated | 9:43am

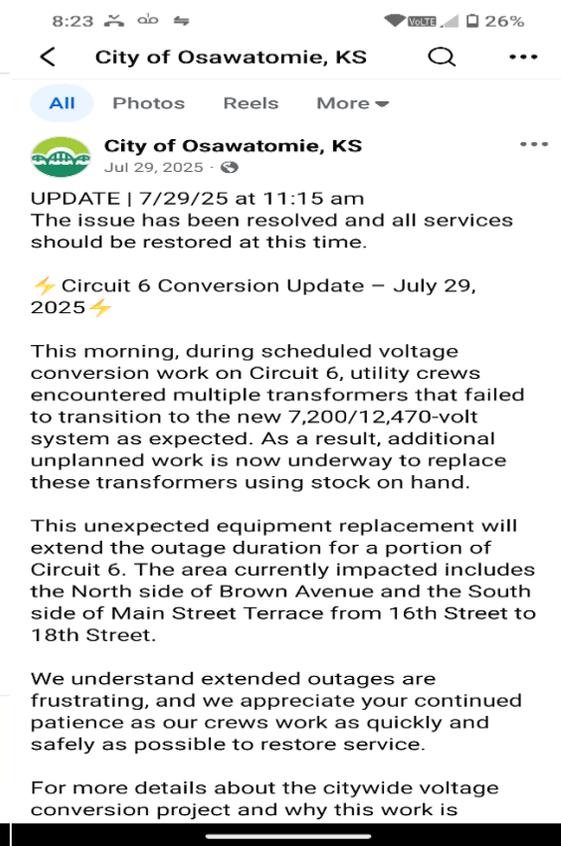
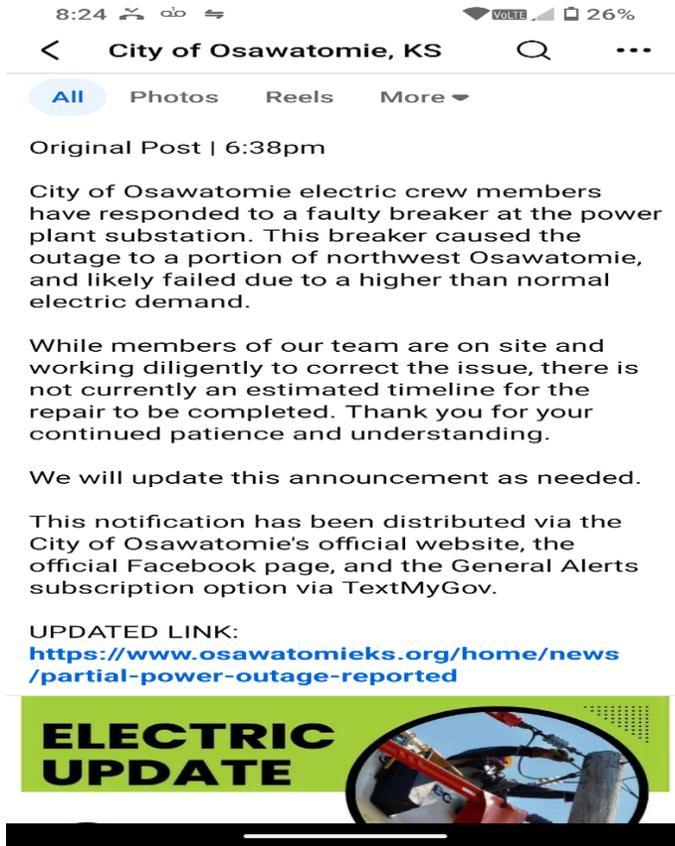
City of Osawatometie utility officials have announced a temporary impact to portions of Osawatometie's water distribution network for today, Tuesday, April 15th, 2025. A planned water line project in Osawatometie's "Northland" area has experienced complications and requires crews to expand the impacted service area to nearby neighborhoods.

LINK:  
<https://www.osawatometieks.org/home/news/northland-water-project-temporarily-impacting-neighborhoods>



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Please consider an amendment to this bill to help protect the already failing systems in Osawatomie. We can't afford the already failing infrastructure let alone the environmental impact that might have. Please be a voice to the whole county and not just take into consideration what the city council wants.

Thank you

Courtney Crawford

Miami County Kansas