

# PROJECT BRIEF



**Project Name:** Independence Water Expansion

**Grant Program:** BASE 2.0

**Project Date:** June 2023 - August 2024

## Project Summary

The Independence Water Expansion project is a 9-mile, 14-inch water transmission line expansion in Independence, Kansas. The water line became operational in May 2024.

This project was recognized with the 2025 Engineering Excellence Award presented by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Kansas.

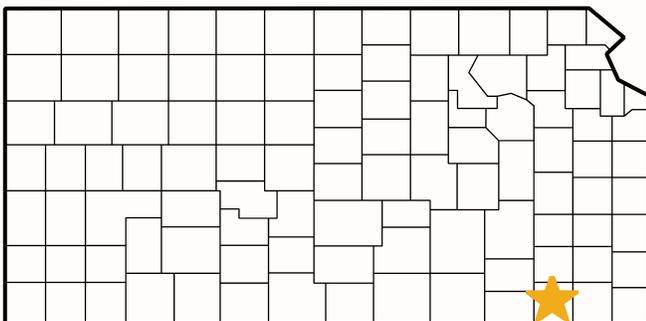
## Goals and Objectives

**Goal:** To incentivize economic development in Independence and Southeast Kansas by focusing on industrial infrastructure expansion.

**Objective:** To deliver water line supply of 600,000 gallons per day to the newly constructed soybean crushing facility with an ultimate capacity of 2.4 million gallons per day.

## Location

Independence, Kansas



## Budget Overview

- Grant Amount: \$2,600,000
- Match Amount: \$866,666
- Total Project Budget: \$3,466,666

### Expense Categories

- Materials & Supplies: \$1,552,816
- Construction: \$1,403,525
- Engineering: \$498,154
- Legal: \$12,140

## Grantee Information

- Independence serves as the city and the county seat of Montgomery County, Kansas.
- Independence functions as an industrial hub for Southeast Kansas, with recent expansions announced in the sectors of agriculture, energy, and aviation.

## Target Population

The target population for this project includes industrial companies considering expanding or relocating operations to Southeast Kansas.

## Sustainability

Independence owns the water supply, serving Rural Water District #6 as a customer. Both the city and the water district generate revenue through service charges. Revenue from service charges will support maintenance and operation of the pipeline expansion, adding additional revenue streams from new customer access as a result of the expansion project.

## Outcomes

- Phase 1 of the project (grant-funded scope) was completed slightly under budget to deliver a 9-mile waterline that crossed 12 waterways, roadways, and railways. A project of this size, estimated to take three years to complete, was completed in 14 months.
- The new facility served by the waterline expansion began operations in 2024 and is expected to process 49 million bushels of soybeans annually.
- Over 60 jobs were estimated to be created at the new plant, in addition to the temporary construction jobs and waterline expansion jobs.

## Activities and Timeline

- Preliminary Engineering and Interlocal Agreement negotiations.
  - April 2023 through October 2023
- Pipe and valve fittings purchase.
  - October 2023
- Waterline construction.
  - August 2024

Remaining project activities outside of grant scope with anticipated completion by March 2026 include:

- Pump station fabrication and installation.
- Stand-pipe and leak detection construction engineering, inspection, and construction activities.

## Contact Information

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