

Water & monitoring

The present questions, the dated records, and the next evidence to check.

Valentine: the operating record is unresolved

The City's September 17 notice reported an 11 mg/L nitrate average from two Well 501 samples and said the well was removed from service. DWEE's September 30 reply says program staff reported that it was not removed and that no correspondence requesting removal was held. Those accounts remain unreconciled in this review. ^{[1][2]}

A test result needs its date and sample details

Drinking Water Watch lists 11.1 mg/L for August 26 sample 1065281 under "NITRATE-NITRITE." The City notice gives a two-sample nitrate average. The individual lab reports and pump/SCADA logs are needed to check the samples and operating timeline. A database "active" listing is not a pumping log. ^{[10][11]}

TK Angus: track implementation of the plan

The August 17 plan proposes one upgradient and two downgradient wells. It calls for spring and fall sampling for chloride, ammonium and nitrate, plus a duplicate and field blank. Reports are due within 45 days after sampling. Final drilled locations, registrations and casing elevations accompany the initial sampling event. ^[4]

What has not been established here

The reviewed source set contains no installed-well report or sampling results from the TK Angus network. This does not prove none exist. The August 13 permit requires completion certification and written approval before use of the new waste-control facilities. Later records must establish whether those steps have occurred. ^[5]

Keep the two water records separate. No causal link between TK Angus and the City's nitrate results is established by the records reviewed. For current drinking-water instructions, consult the City notice and City Hall at 402-376-2323.

County facts

Source definitions and dated agency guidance

Commissioners: board size and voting method

Elections Director Andrew Buller wrote September 29 that a three-to-five change would retain at-large elections. A separate action under section 32-554(1)(a) would be required to change to district elections. His reply describes initial appointments and a 2028 election with two four-year and three two-year terms, then staggered four-year terms. This summary attributes that interpretation to the Elections Division. ^[6]

Population: counts and estimates

The Census counts were 5,713 in 2010 and 5,455 in 2020. QuickFacts gives a July 2025 estimate of 5,561 and a Vintage 2025 April 2020 estimates base of 5,458, a 1.9% increase. The long-term Census decline and the newer estimated increase describe different timeframes. ^[7]

NIRMA: the pool's retention

NIRMA describes a \$500,000 property/liability self-insured retention, with a \$250,000 retention for privacy/security events. These are pool coverage terms. A county's cost on a particular claim requires its coverage, deductible, assessment and claim records; the webpage alone does not establish that bill. ^[8]

BSH Kilgore: what the order covers

The July 27 FERC order accepted cancellation of the generator interconnection agreement, effective August 24. That agreement concerns connecting the project to the grid. Its cancellation does not, by itself, settle separate litigation or every possible future proposal. ^[9]

Source notes

Numbers refer to the notes in this brief and the one-page summary. Links open the source or the attributed correspondence excerpt.

[1] City of Valentine nitrate notice, Sept. 17, 2026

City press release carried by News Channel Nebraska; a dated notice, not a live status feed.

[2] DWEE reply, RM-2026-749, Sept. 30, 2026

Agency statements on Well 501, laboratory reports, PFAS monitoring and withheld maps. Selected text reproduced with access keys and contact details omitted.

[3] DWEE reply, RM-2026-747, Sept. 29, 2026

Agency statement on the public Wellhead layer and withheld records.

[4] TK Angus groundwater-monitoring plan, Aug. 17, 2026

Received Aug. 19; DWEE record 20260091409. Sections 3.1-3.2, 4.2-4.6 and 6.

[5] DWEE permit and responses, Aug. 13-14, 2026

Search Facility 124885. Permit record 20260091375, conditions 2-4; public-comment response record 20260058852. The portal requires JavaScript.

[6] Nebraska Elections Division reply, Sept. 29, 2026

Written guidance from Elections Director Andrew Buller. Related statute: section 32-554.

[7] U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Cherry County

Vintage 2025 estimate and estimates base; 2010 and 2020 Census counts. Checked Sept. 30.

[8] NIRMA Property/Liability Pool

Coverage description, including the separate privacy/security retention. Checked Sept. 30.

[9] FERC order, BSH Kilgore, July 27, 2026

Docket ER26-2752-000. Read with the June 8 SPP cancellation filing.

[10] Drinking Water Watch: Valentine facilities

System NE3103106. A database facility status is not a time-stamped pumping log.

[11] Drinking Water Watch: Aug. 26 sample 1065281

State database labels the analyte NITRATE-NITRITE and lists 11.1 mg/L. This is one result, not the two-sample average in the City notice.

Review limit: sources checked through September 30, 2026. This is a public-record summary, not certification of present operations or a complete agency docket. Corrections: sunsetelliott@gmail.com.