



January 9, 2026

SENATE BILL No. 6

DIGEST OF SB 6 (Updated January 8, 2026 11:17 am - DI 87)

Citations Affected: IC 32-24.

Synopsis: Extension of water services. Provides that a public utility must provide notice to the public, affected landowners, the county plan commission, and on the public utility's web site, if any, before it condemns land for the purpose of extending a water or wastewater main. Requires a public utility to schedule a meeting with a landowner or interested party not later than 30 days after receiving a request for a meeting.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Niemeyer, Dernulc, Ford J.D.

December 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.
January 8, 2026, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

SB 6—LS 6064/DI 153



January 9, 2026

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 6

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning property.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 32-24-4-5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5. (a) This section does not apply to a temporary**
4 **easement or a condemnation that is needed to protect the public**
5 **health or safety.**
6 **(b) Before a public utility may take, acquire, condemn, or**
7 **appropriate land, real estate, or any interest in the land or real**
8 **estate for the purpose of extending a water or wastewater main, the**
9 **public utility shall provide all of the following notices:**
10 **(1) A notice to each owner of land that is needed or intended**
11 **to be taken for the extension. The notice must:**
12 **(A) be sent:**
13 **(i) to the address of the landowner as listed on the tax**
14 **duplicate;**
15 **(ii) by first class mail, certified mail with return receipt**
16 **requested, or any other means of delivery that includes**
17 **a return receipt; and**

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- 1 (iii) at least sixty (60) days before a public utility
- 2 presents an offer of purchase under IC 32-24-1-5;
- 3 (B) include a statement that:
- 4 (i) the public utility intends to extend a water or
- 5 wastewater main;
- 6 (ii) the landowner's property is needed for the extension;
- 7 and
- 8 (iii) the public utility can acquire land through
- 9 condemnation if certain conditions are met; and
- 10 (C) clearly identify:
- 11 (i) where a landowner may access information pertaining
- 12 to a proposed extension project; and
- 13 (ii) the applicable utility representative to contact
- 14 regarding any questions pertaining to the proposed
- 15 project.
- 16 (2) A notice:
- 17 (A) in a newspaper of general circulation in the county
- 18 where the extension is proposed published:
- 19 (i) two (2) times, at least one (1) week apart; and
- 20 (ii) at least forty-five (45) days before a public utility
- 21 presents an offer of purchase under IC 32-24-1-5; and
- 22 (B) that includes information regarding:
- 23 (i) the proposed boundaries of the extension;
- 24 (ii) the expected completion date of the total extension
- 25 project;
- 26 (iii) the location of information pertaining to a proposed
- 27 extension project that may be accessed by an interested
- 28 person; and
- 29 (iv) the applicable utility representative to contact
- 30 regarding any questions pertaining to the proposed
- 31 project.
- 32 (3) A notice:
- 33 (A) in a conspicuous location on the public utility's website,
- 34 if the utility has a website; and
- 35 (B) that includes the information in subdivision (2)(B).
- 36 (4) A notice:
- 37 (A) to the county plan commission in the county where the
- 38 extension is proposed;
- 39 (B) sent by first class mail, certified mail with return
- 40 receipt requested, or any other means of delivery that
- 41 includes a return receipt; and
- 42 (C) that includes the information in subdivision (2)(B).



1 (c) If a landowner or other interested person requests a meeting
2 with the public utility regarding the proposed extension project,
3 the utility shall offer to meet with the landowner not later than
4 thirty (30) days after the date of the request.

5 (d) If the public utility provides evidence that the notice under
6 subsection (b)(1) was sent:

7 (1) by certified mail, with return receipt requested, or any
8 other means of delivery that includes a return receipt; and

9 (2) in accordance with subsection (b)(1);

10 it is not necessary that the landowner accept receipt of the notice.

11 (e) A public utility may move forward with a proposed water or
12 wastewater main extension if the public utility has satisfied the
13 notice requirements set forth under this section.

14 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to violate
15 IC 8-1-2-101.5 or any applicable administrative rule.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President: The Senate Committee on Local Government, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 6, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, line 3, delete "A" and insert **"This section does not apply to a temporary easement or a condemnation that is needed to protect the public health or safety."**

(b) Before a".

Page 1, line 3, delete "not".

Page 1, line 6, delete "main unless the public utility conducts an outreach" and insert **"main, the public utility shall provide all of the following notices:**

(1) A notice to each owner of land that is needed or intended to be taken for the extension. The notice must:

(A) be sent:

- (i) to the address of the landowner as listed on the tax duplicate;**
- (ii) by first class mail, certified mail with return receipt requested, or any other means of delivery that includes a return receipt; and**
- (iii) at least sixty (60) days before a public utility presents an offer of purchase under IC 32-24-1-5;**

(B) include a statement that:

- (i) the public utility intends to extend a water or wastewater main;**
- (ii) the landowner's property is needed for the extension; and**
- (iii) the public utility can acquire land through condemnation if certain conditions are met; and**

(C) clearly identify:

- (i) where a landowner may access information pertaining to a proposed extension project; and**
- (ii) the applicable utility representative to contact regarding any questions pertaining to the proposed project.**

(2) A notice:

(A) in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the extension is proposed published:

- (i) two (2) times, at least one (1) week apart; and**
- (ii) at least forty-five (45) days before a public utility presents an offer of purchase under IC 32-24-1-5; and**



- (B) that includes information regarding:**
- (i) the proposed boundaries of the extension;**
 - (ii) the expected completion date of the total extension project;**
 - (iii) the location of information pertaining to a proposed extension project that may be accessed by an interested person; and**
 - (iv) the applicable utility representative to contact regarding any questions pertaining to the proposed project.**

(3) A notice:

- (A) in a conspicuous location on the public utility's website, if the utility has a website; and**

- (B) that includes the information in subdivision (2)(B).**

(4) A notice:

- (A) to the county plan commission in the county where the extension is proposed;**

- (B) sent by first class mail, certified mail with return receipt requested, or any other means of delivery that includes a return receipt; and**

- (C) that includes the information in subdivision (2)(B).**

(c) If a landowner or other interested person requests a meeting with the public utility regarding the proposed extension project, the utility shall offer to meet with the landowner not later than thirty (30) days after the date of the request."

Page 1, delete lines 7 through 17.

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 29, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(d) If the public utility provides evidence that the notice under subsection (b)(1) was sent:"

Page 2, line 32, delete "this section;" and insert **"subsection (b)(1);"**.

Page 2, delete lines 34 through 36, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(e) A public utility may move forward with a proposed water or wastewater main extension if the public utility has satisfied the notice requirements set forth under this section.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to violate IC 8-1-2-101.5 or any applicable administrative rule."

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 6 as introduced.)



BUCK, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0.

