



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
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Lieutenant Governor

Kathleen A. Theoharides
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

Mr. Nathaniel Norton, GIS Director/Project Manager
Tighe & Bond, Inc.
446 Main Street
Worcester, MA. 01608

June 25, 2019

Dear Mr. Norton:

In 2016, MassDEP's Water Utility Resilience Program (WURP) initiated a standardized Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technical assistance project entitled, *Enhancing Resilience and Emergency Preparedness of Water Utilities through Improved Mapping*. Funding in 2017 and 2018 through MassDEP's Water Management Act (WMA) program has resulted in specific GIS mapping technical assistance for 91 drinking water and wastewater utilities in 60 municipalities, updated interconnection information for Public Water Systems (PWSs), development and updates to statewide service area mapping of water utilities, and development of a field use information report.

This year additional WMA funding has been secured in order to continue this technical assistance. On June 6, 2019, MassDEP announced Tighe & Bond as the successful bidder who will continue this work through 2020. Tighe & Bond will:

- Provide specific GIS mapping for prioritized PWSs.
- Provide on-site training for participating water utilities to assist with the continued practical use and improvement of their GIS infrastructure information.
- Continue to build upon and enhance the statewide GIS datalayer of community PWS service areas.

Input from the experts that manage and operate PWSs is imperative to successful results for all aspects of this project, particularly with regard to the statewide service area mapping. This statewide service area data provides a general view of existing, public drinking water service availability within each community in the Commonwealth. The service area data does not show any detailed information relative to critical infrastructure. It consists of a buffered polygon around roadways where PWS pipes are known to exist, thereby providing a general area of service within the community that can be utilized for public transparency.

Tighe & Bond will work with system and community officials to develop draft service areas where none exist, confirm previously drafted, PWS service area information, and complete any necessary revisions or corrections to draft service area maps in an effort to complete confirmed service areas for all 524 community PWSs (47% were confirmed during 2018). All systems that work with the contractor will receive a copy of their completed service area map as well.

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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This letter serves to identify Tighe & Bond, and its representatives, as contractors to MassDEP in order to provide assurances to utility staff that Tighe & Bond is working as an agent of MassDEP through June 30, 2020.

For further information, please visit MassDEP's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/water-utility-resilience-program> or contact Kristin Divris at 508-849-4028 or Kristin.Divris@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvette dePeiza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "Y" and a long, sweeping underline.

Yvette dePeiza, Director
MassDEP Drinking Water Program