FY20 Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program Information Session – Questions and Answers

1. **Question:** When will the grant announcements be made?

Answer: According to the BID document, 100 days after the BID closing, however, we hope to make announcements sooner than that.

2. **Question:** Is it preferable to request grant funds in FY20 or FY21? **Answer:** It's preferable to say that grant funds could be used in either year to give us the most flexibility in awarding grants, but really, you should request the money when makes sense for your project.

3. **Question:** May an applicant apply for multiple parcels in one application? **Answer:** Yes. Per the BID document, landholdings that are in a single, contiguous tract may be packaged in the same application. Unrelated, separate landholdings must be submitted as individual applications. Multiple applications may be submitted by the same entity.

4. **Question:** What is meant by "no current enforcement orders or orders of non-compliance related to management"?

Answer: Please be in touch with the Department of Environmental Protection for specific, case-by-case answers to this question to be sure that your water system is in compliance with DEP's rules. DEP's phone number is (617) 292-5500.

5. **Question:** Is a survey of the property required? **Answer:** A current survey of the property is required.

6. **Question:** Must any structures on the property be removed? **Answer:** Yes. Structures must come down prior to grant reimbursement, unless they are specifically allowed as a part of a Conservation Restriction on the property.

7. **Question:** When should the town meeting/city council vote occur? **Answer:** The vote must occur prior to the contract being signed. Keep in mind when you need to close on the property and have the vote scheduled significantly before that date.

8. **Question:** Should the appraiser appraise the Conservation Restriction value or the fee simple value of the property?

Answer: The appraisal should reflect whatever interest the grantee will be acquiring.

9. Question: If the project involves a partner land trust, which entity should hold the Conservation Restriction, the municipality or the land trust?

Answer: This depends upon the project and what makes sense for each partner.