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**Water Management Act Grant
Agency Document #: BWR-2021-WMA
Question and Answer Document
August 11, 2020**

Answers to questions emailed to MassDEP are below.

Q1. *According to the RFR, projects that focus on rate structure studies will be considered. Is there additional info/requirements regarding this? Also, may grant funds be used to hire an outside entity to do a rate structure study?*

A1. Page 5 of the RFR under Section 3, Eligible Projects states “the focus of these grants will be for....demand management projects aimed to improve the efficiency of water use within a municipality or a watershed; these projects may include studies to develop and implement Drought and Rate studies that help control demand.” Rate studies must consider demand management and seek to improve the efficiency of water use by evaluating increasing block rates, seasonal rates, or other rate-based methods.

Considering reviewing previous grant studies that have been funded; their summaries can be found under Additional Summaries at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-management-act-grant-programs-for-public-water-suppliers>. Yes, grant funds may be used to hire an outside entity to do a rate study.