



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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NOTICE: REQUEST FOR INTEREST

STATEWIDE WATER MANAGEMENT ACT PERMIT AND REGISTRATION HOLDERS

WATER AUDIT

RFI # BWR 2024-AWWA-M36-WATER AUDITS

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is soliciting interest from Water Management Act (WMA) registrants and permit holders to receive a free American Water Works Association (AWWA) M36 “Top-Down” Audit from a private consulting firm, which MassDEP will hire through a public procurement process at a later date. For certain facilities that meet the outlined data criteria, a “Bottom-Up Component Analysis” can also be done as part of the Audit. Once selected, the WMA public water suppliers (PWSs) are required to participate in the AWWA M36 Audit; however, the consulting firm hired by MassDEP will guide the Audit and provide a report to each PWS and MassDEP following completion of the Audit process.

Based upon the response to this Request for Interest (RFI), a list of WMA PWSs approved for the completion of a “Top-Down” M36 Audit, or a “Top-Down M36 Audit with a Bottom-Up Component Analysis” will be included in a competitive procurement solicitation for the services of a consulting firm, to be released by MassDEP later this year. The purpose of that procurement will be to select the consulting firm that will conduct the AWWA M36 Audits. A final list of WMA PWSs that will receive an AWWA M36 Audit will not be available until after a consulting firm is selected by MassDEP, given that time and funding constraints may limit the number of AWWA M36 Audits that can be conducted. Funding for this program is contingent upon appropriation by the Massachusetts legislature.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Any Massachusetts public water supplier or municipality with a valid Water Management Act permit or registration is eligible to submit a Response to this RFI. Public water suppliers must be able to commit significant personnel time as an in-kind match and work with MassDEP’s consultant in order to produce accurate audit results and validation.

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Glynis Bugg at 617-348-4040.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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RFI APPLICATION PROCESS

RFI Applications are reviewed and recommended by a screening committee at MassDEP.

RFI EVALUATION CRITERIA

Special consideration will be given to public water suppliers that have had a consistently high MassDEP-accepted Unaccounted for Water (UAW) percentage, or have been unable to receive a final water needs forecast from the Department of Conservation and Recreation because of high UAW or other accounting issues. Please see [Public Water Supply Tools, Resources & Performance Standards | Mass.gov](#) for a current list of public water suppliers and their MassDEP-approved UAW values. For a full description of the RFI Evaluation Criteria, please see the RFI, which is posted on MassDEP's website at the link below.

MassDEP Commitment to Environmental Justice: MassDEP is committed to advancing equity, diversity, and environmental justice (EJ)¹ through its public investments. The agency seeks to prioritize the direction of these resources to benefit EJ communities and to address environmental inequities. The agency seeks to prioritize the direction of these resources to benefit EJ communities and to address environmental inequities. To that end, MassDEP grant and funding programs include criteria and evaluation parameters that emphasize equity, diversity and environmental justice, consistent with each program's statutory authority and source of funding

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please see <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/water-management-act-grant-programs-for-public-water-suppliers> for the RFI document, and for details on how to respond to this RFI.

¹ "Environmental justice is based on the principle that all people have a right to be protected from environmental hazards and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthful environment regardless of race, color, national origin, income, or English language proficiency. Environmental justice is the equal protection and meaningful involvement of all people and communities with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of energy, climate change, and environmental laws, regulations, and policies and the equitable distribution of energy and environmental benefits and burdens." See Environmental Justice Policy of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (updated June 24, 2021): <https://www.mass.gov/doc/environmental-justice-policy6242021-update/download>.