## Department of Environmental Protection

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## Water Management Act Grant Agency Document #: BWR-2025-01-WMA Question and Answer Document August 23, 2024

Answers to questions emailed in, as well as posed to MassDEP at a Zoom conference call on August 12, 2024 to are below. Additionally, please consider reviewing previous grant studies that have been funded. These summaries can be found under Additional Summaries at : <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-management-act-grant-programs-for-public-water-suppliers">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/water-management-act-grant-programs-for-public-water-suppliers</a> .

Q1. Would a residential meter replacement program or a master meter replacement program be eligible for reimbursement as part of this grant?

A1. No, a residential meter replacement program or a master meter replacement program are ineligible activities for reimbursement under this grant.

Q2. Will the M36 Audit Grant be available this year?

A2. Yes, we are planning to have the RFI for the M36 Audit Grant available shortly, most likely in the next few weeks. It will be posted on the following website: <u>Water Management</u> <u>Act Grant Programs for Public Water Suppliers | Mass.gov</u>

Q3. Will the Ipswich Grant be available this year?

A2. Yes, we are planning to have the RFR for the Ipswich Grant available shortly, most likely in September. It will be posted on the following website: <u>Water Management Act Grant</u> <u>Programs for Public Water Suppliers | Mass.gov</u>

Q4. If eligible for both grants, would I have a better chance of getting a project funded under the WMA Grant or the Ipswich Grant?

A4. If eligible for both grants, MassDEP would suggest applying for funds under the Ipswich Grant, given the limited applicant pool for that grant.

Q5. Your website says that this grant can be used for "reduction of wastewater inflow and infiltration". Does this mean inflow and infiltration of groundwater into our wastewater collection system which increases the volume at our wastewater treatment plant?
A5. Yes, it refers to the inflow and infiltration of groundwater into our wastewater collection system.

Q6. For Firm Yield studies, is it required to use the Firm Yield Estimator model developed by the U.S. Geologic Survey Version 2.0? This version does not work well for reservoirs in a series. A6. We have revied the software available, and are changing the RFR to reflect that USGS's Massachusetts Reservoir Simulation Tool should be the software that is used. The Tool and documentation can be downloaded at: <u>The Massachusetts Reservoir Simulation Tool | U.S.</u> <u>Geological Survey (usgs.gov)</u>.