

**Rating Action: Moody's assigns Aaa to MA Clean Water Trust SRF Bonds Ser 23A, 23B; Outlook is stable**

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NOTE: On April 14, 2021, the headline was corrected as follows: In the headline, the name of the bonds was changed to "MA Clean Water Trust SRF Bonds Ser 23A, 23B."

New York, April 13, 2021 -- Moody's Investors Service has assigned a Aaa rating to the proposed \$143.21 million of Massachusetts Clean Water Trust State Revolving Fund Bonds, Series 23A (Green Bonds) and \$212.26 million State Revolving Fund Bonds Series 23B (Sustainability Bonds). Moody's maintains the Aaa ratings and stable outlook on all outstanding Master Trust Agreement (MTA) bonds, Pool Program bonds, and all Massachusetts Water Resources Authority bonds.

**RATINGS RATIONALE**

The rating is based on the strong overall credit quality of the underlying loan portfolio and strong management of the program. The rating incorporates projected default tolerance of 51% for all of Massachusetts Clean Water Trust's indentures combined as well as very strong credit characteristics of the combined loan pools.

**RATING OUTLOOK**

The stable outlook on the bonds reflects Moody's expectation that the strong credit quality and diversity of the loan pool, cash flow projections and counterparty profile will remain relatively stable.

**FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO AN UPGRADE OF THE RATINGS**

- Not applicable

**FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO A DOWNGRADE OF THE RATINGS**

- A decrease in the available reserves and default tolerance levels or a material change in the credit quality of the pool or the investment providers could put downward pressure on the rating

**LEGAL SECURITY**

The bonds are special obligations of the Trust, payable solely from the funds pledged pursuant to the MTA including borrower payments, contract assistance payments, loans and financing agreements, and other funds held under the MTA including the Equity Fund.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Series 23A (Green Bonds) and Series 23B (Sustainability Bonds) are expected to be used to finance wastewater and drinking water projects for governmental units or other eligible borrowers and, together with other funds of the Trust, to pay costs of issuance.

**PROFILE**

The obligor is the Master Trust Agreement originally created in 2015. The purpose of the obligor is to provide financial assistance to local governments and other eligible borrowers in the Commonwealth under its State Revolving Fund programs.

**METHODOLOGY**

The principal methodology used in this rating was Public Sector Pool Programs and Financings Methodology published in April 2020 and available at [https://www.moody's.com/researchdocumentcontentpage.aspx?docid=PBM\\_1171420](https://www.moody's.com/researchdocumentcontentpage.aspx?docid=PBM_1171420). Alternatively, please see the Rating Methodologies page on [www.moody's.com](http://www.moody's.com) for a copy of this methodology.

## REGULATORY DISCLOSURES

For further specification of Moody's key rating assumptions and sensitivity analysis, see the sections Methodology Assumptions and Sensitivity to Assumptions in the disclosure form. Moody's Rating Symbols and Definitions can be found at: [https://www.moody's.com/researchdocumentcontentpage.aspx?docid=PBC\\_79004](https://www.moody's.com/researchdocumentcontentpage.aspx?docid=PBC_79004).

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