



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

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Maura T. Healey  
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll  
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper  
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple  
Commissioner

Groton Water Department  
Thomas Orcutt  
173 Main Street  
Groton, MA 01450

April 5, 2024

Dear Mr. Orcutt:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) Drinking Water Program is pleased to extend congratulations to the Groton Water Department for its outstanding performance in 2023. Your system is being recognized in the Energy Conservation category of the 2024 Public Water Systems Awards Program.

The Groton Water Department installed a 22.5 kW solar photovoltaic system at the new Whitney Pond Wells Water Treatment Facility (864 Lowell Road in Groton MA) to provide clean renewable power to significantly reduce the electrical demand required to heat and de-humidify the new facility. MassDEP's Gap Energy Grant Program provided a \$103,500 grant to help fund the rooftop solar installation that will generate approximately 23,652 kilowatt-hours of renewable power annually. This project will ultimately result in projected cost savings for the town of approximately \$15,000 annually or a whopping \$225,000 over the life of the solar array.

MassDEP realizes that it is no easy task to keep up with the ever-evolving federal and state drinking water regulations. While most systems strive to just comply with the regulations, your system has put forth an extra effort.

MassDEP encourages you to continue this level of excellence in carrying out your work of protecting and supplying safe and fit water to our citizens. I look forward to seeing you at the awards ceremony on May 9, 2024, at the Devens Common Center. If you have any questions regarding the Awards Program, please contact

[Marie.Tennant@mass.gov](mailto:Marie.Tennant@mass.gov) and [Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov](mailto:Program.Director-DWP@mass.gov). Please R.S.V.P. to New England Water Works by May 1, 2024, as noted on the accompanying invitation.

Congratulations,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvette DePeiza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Yvette DePeiza, Program Director  
Drinking Water Program

Attachments