

TWDB was appropriated \$127,860 to conduct a study to further water conservation through quantification and measurement. Similar allocation in the past resulted in the development of the Municipal Water Conservation Planning Tool and the Statewide Water Conservation Project.

TWDB is interested in using these funds for a water loss audit validation study. Hopefully this project would provide insight into certain aspects of conducting a water loss audit validation program in Texas and we hope that most of the project could be completed by the end of 2020.

Potential overview and responsibilities of the project include:

TWDB OBLIGATION

- TWDB to Post RFQ – for a contractor to conduct a data validation of water utilities of varying size (<10,000, 10,000-50,000, and 50-100,000 population).
- TWDB staff to identify “volunteer” utilities to participate in the validation project.
- TWDB staff to work with contractor in drafting validation questions.

RETAIL UTILITY OBLIGATION

- Agree to engage in the water loss audit validation with the contractor.
- Provide contractor with the necessary records for use in the validation project.

CONTRACTOR OBLIGATION

- Pilot validations should be completed in full by late 2020.
- Retail utility to receive a water loss audit validation report for record keeping and best management use.
- Work with TWDB staff in developing set of questions to be used in the validation process.
- TWDB will receive:
 - Update to original TWDB list of questions
 - Final training agenda or approach to the validation process
 - A report to include:
 - A summary of the validation exercises
 - A description of any benefit and challenges of 3rd party validations for Texas retail water utilities
 - An estimate of costs for 3rd party validations of Texas retail water utilities by size category.