

WaterStart RFP - Round 20

Release date: 18 October 2021 (8am PST)

WaterStart requests proposals from technology companies to solve immediate demands for technology solution by our global members. If you are a company that is ready deploy your solution with our member agencies, **please apply!**

Drinking Water Priorities

1. Remote control and actuation of water distribution line valves (line/slucice/butterfly) GB
2. Drone Data Management AU
3. Extension of radio frequency coverage in tunnel environment US

Wastewater Priorities

4. Consolidation of asset and process data across the wastewater network GB
5. Smart monitoring of sludge blanket levels in the wastewater system GB

Please note! Supporting technical and business information can be found in page 3-4.

Deadline for submission: 19 November 2021 | Evaluations completed by: 20 December, 2021

About the WaterStart Program

WaterStart is nonprofit collective of globally recognized leaders who are adapting to change by scaling up innovative solutions to water challenges.

The priorities listed above represent the collective needs of WaterStart's international membership base. International applicants are required to address one (or more) of the priorities above in their proposal. Following a competitive selection process, WaterStart will award grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$150,000 to assist with the deployment of projects (*i.e., pilots*) with member agencies. Subsequently, results captured from projects are regularly showcased to our global network to enhance collective learning and collaboration opportunities.

If you're a technology company ready to scale-up by working with globally recognized customers with opportunities to enter new markets, **please apply today!**

How to Apply

To view more details related to the above priority descriptions and submit a proposal to this RFP, an account with WaterStart's online knowledge sharing platform, Channels for Innovation (CHANNELS) must be created.

To create an account, visit WaterStart's website at <https://waterstart.com/> and follow these steps:

1. In the upper-right corner you will click on "[Become a Member/Login](#)"
2. Click "Sign Up" and then select "I Am a Tech Provider"
3. Fill in basic email and company information to create an account

Once the account is created, you will be able to log into CHANNELS and view and respond to all RFPs released by WaterStart.

To respond to this RFP, please follow these steps:

1. Click on "RFPs" and find the open RFP that you are responding to (Round 20)
2. Click on "Learn More"
3. Click on "Submit RFP"
4. Answer the questions and upload any supplemental information.
Supplemental information **must not exceed 5 pages in length.**
5. Click on either "Save Draft" to complete later or "Submit RFP" to submit your response.

Please note, RFP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is available on [our website](#).

Basic Evaluation Criteria

Criteria for judging applications will be based on:

1. Degree of technology's alignment with listed priority
2. Stage of technology readiness
3. Degree of shared risk
4. Degree of implementation risk

Questions?

Please feel free to contact our team at proposals@waterstart.com for assistance.

Full Length Priorities

Drinking Water Priorities

1. Remote control and actuation of water distribution line valves (line/sluiice/butterfly)

Description: WaterStart member is seeking a solution to remotely control and actuate buried line valves, sluice valves and/or butterfly valves. The ideal solution would retrofit actuators to the existing valve body and framework/chamber.

The actuator should allow us a high level of control to percentage open/closed and operate in a transient calm manor. The system to be powered by solar and/or battery. Communications with the valve to allow commands and valve status to be sent and received to be via a wireless connection protocol (4G/5G/LoRaWAN etc.) into data platform or SCADA integration.

gb Please note: This is a UK-based priority. It is open to domestic & international applicants.

2. Drone Data Management

Description: WaterStart member has identified the need for a data management and interface solution to enhance the ability of staff in identifying, accessing and simple visualization of drone data (e.g., UAV, AUV, ROV). The ideal systems should facilitate a centralized approach for the storage and management of video, image, point clouds and DEMs from catchment and asset monitoring projects. It is the expectation that the solution utilizes standardized data attributes (metadata) and be fully future proof with the potential to feed into geospatial and related systems (e.g., ArcGIS).

au Please note: This is Australian-based priority. It is open to domestic & international applicants.

3. Extension of radio frequency coverage in tunnel environment

Description: WaterStart member is seeking a temporary mobile application to allow and/or extend radio frequency coverage into tunnels. The ideal device must be sturdy and explosive proof (i.e., cannot provide ignition energy to ignite an explosive gas environment) and communicate from subsurface structures composed of a variety of materials.

us Please note: This is US-based priority. It is open to domestic & international applicants.

Full Length Priorities

Wastewater Priorities

4. Consolidation of asset and process data across the wastewater network

Description: WaterStart member is seeking a solution to assist with the consolidation of extensive asset and process data across the wastewater network. The ideal solution would utilize Machine Learning (ML) and/or Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies to providing a holistic view of asset health and effectiveness; assist with the prioritization of maintenance and avoidance of critical failure. Solution should be appropriately designed to be scaled to enterprise level with a support structure to suit.

GB Please note: This is a UK based priority. It is open to domestic & international applicants.

5. Smart monitoring of sludge blanket levels in the wastewater system

Description: WaterStart member is seeking an intelligent solution to assist with the proactive monitoring of sludge blanket levels in the wastewater system. This technology would greatly assist with the management of risks associated with blanket loss and how fluctuating levels can impact site performance and compliance. For this reason, the ideal system should be retrofittable and provide integrated, detailed reports on sludge blanket levels in real-near time. Analytic capabilities would also be of added value.

GB Please note: This is a UK based priority. It is open to domestic & international applicants.