



# Machine Learning Modeling and Inventory Preparations

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April 12, 2024



**PHILADELPHIA**  
**WATER**  
— DEPARTMENT —



# Disclaimer

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# Philadelphia Background and Regulatory Review





# PWD Organization Structure and Customer Base

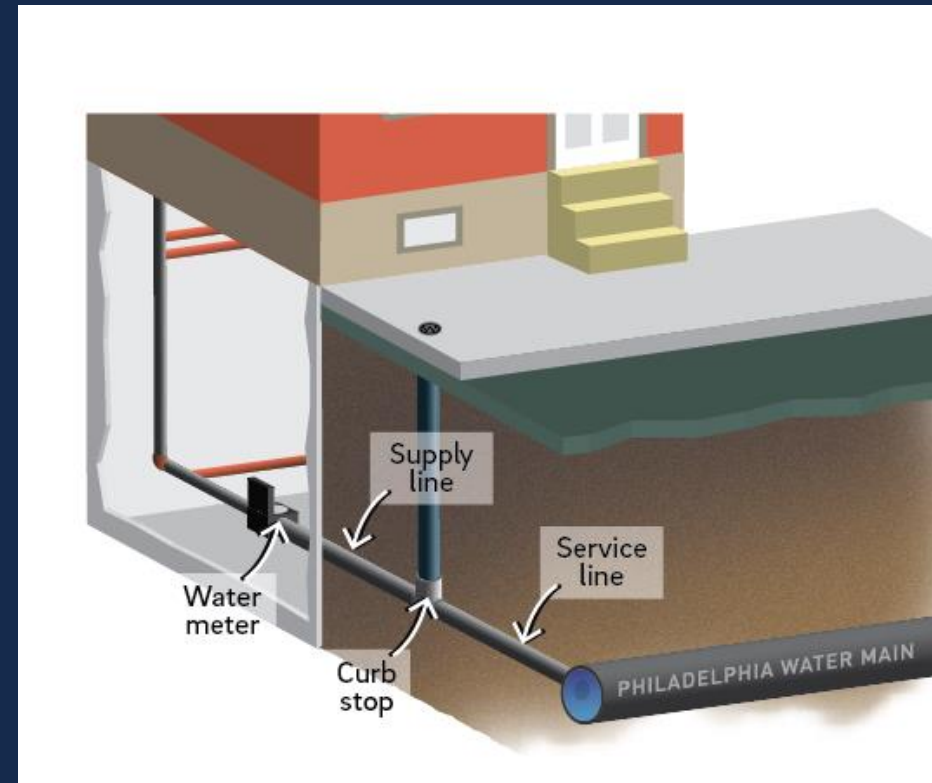
The Philadelphia Water Department (“PWD” or the “Department”), one of the City’s ten operating departments that reports to the Office of the Managing Director with approval of the Mayor, operates, maintains, repairs and improves the City’s water and wastewater systems.

- Serves 1,603,797 individuals
- Approximately 505,000 active water accounts
- Approximately 544,000 wastewater accounts, including approximately 51,000 stormwater-only accounts

# Philadelphia Service Line Background

- Philadelphia property owners are **responsible** for and **own** the entire service line from the main to the meter
- Service versus Supply:
  - Service – Main -> Curb Stop
  - Supply – Curb Stop -> Meter

- Number of service lines
  - ~511,000





# USEPA Released Draft LCRI 11/30

## Inventory

- Must validate the accuracy of the non-lead service line category in their inventory no later than 7 years after the compliance date (i.e., by 2034)
- Complete inventory by replacement deadline (i.e., by 2037)



## Lead Service Line Replacement

Replacements must be completed within 10 years of the anticipated LCRI compliance (i.e., by 2037)

# Service Line Inventory Regulatory Requirements

# PADEP Guidance

“If a water system’s investigation concludes that the pipe material is non-lead (e.g. copper), they are expected to show sufficient evidence through one of the “stand-alone” verification options, or a combination of 2 or more other methods as described below.”

## Option 1. “Standalone” Records

- Records showing an installation or replacement date after January 6, 1991
- Meter size >2” in diameter
- Records of a local ordinance prohibiting LSL installation and water system records indicate service line installation or replacement after the ordinance was in effect

**“Standalone” records do not require additional verification**



## Option 2 . “Standalone” Field Verification

### a. Mechanical Excavation

Must be conducted at minimum of 3 locations:

01

#### Location 1

Curb stop to building – min. 18” from curb stop.

02

#### Location 2

Curb stop to water main – min. 18” from curb stop.

03

#### Location 3

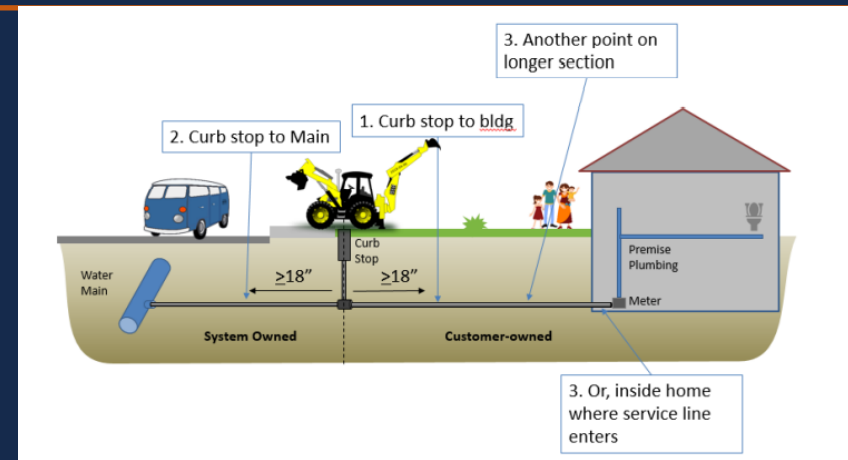
Inside home (inspected by water personnel) or at a **second excavation point**.

### b. Internal CCTV of full service

#### Feasibility

Emerging methods are being developed by several vendors, but no reliable, proven method for verification of material for < 1-inch service lines is readily available

01



# Option 3. Combination of Methods

*Need two or more investigation methods listed below:*

- Records review
- Modeling/statistical analysis
- Water sampling (no CCT)
- Visual inspection at exiting access point (i.e., meter pit or SL entry in customer's basement)
- Field verification
- CCTV inspection at curb box
- Mechanical excavation at two locations (for systems with joint ownership of SL)
- Other methods reviewed by DEP

## Records review can include:

- Previous materials evaluation
- Construction and plumbing codes/records
- Distribution inspection and records
- Information obtained through normal operations

# PWD Challenge: Developing a Service Line Inventory

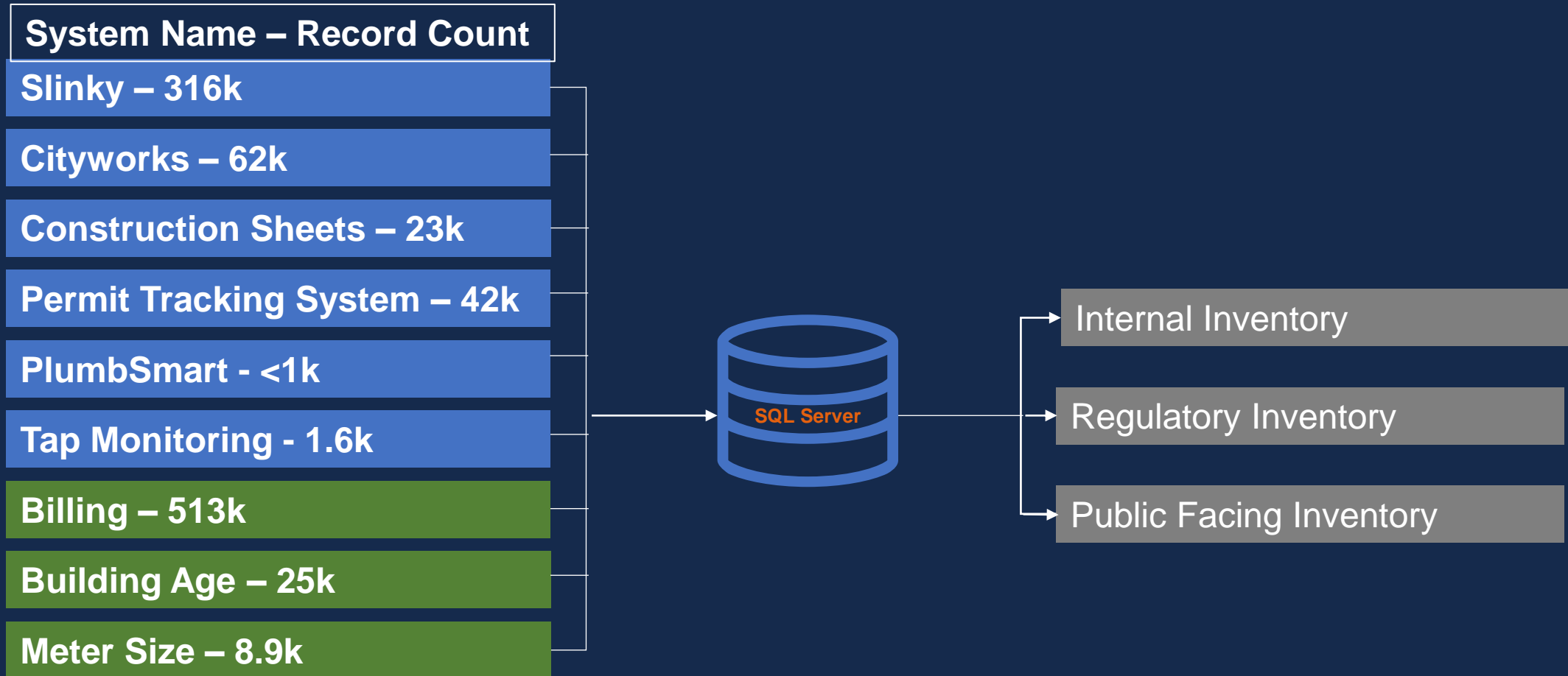
- PWD does not own any portion of the service line
- Limited records containing service line information
- Records are scattered among numerous "databases" that need to be aggregated

INSPECTION REPORT OF WATER SERVICE CONNECTION ON WATER MAIN RELAYS				CITY OF PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION BRANCH				CONTRACT WORK No.					
STREET NAME				SIDE OF STREET		STREET WIDTH		FOOTWAY WIDTH		PLUMBER			
				11N 11E 1E YW		26'		12'		TOBIAS, Sellen			
HOUSE No.	NOTES	MO/Y	FERRULE		DEPTH		EXISTING SERVICE PIPE		LOCATION OF MAIN		CURB STOP FROM MAIN	NEW	LOCATION OF FERRULE AND CURB
			SIZE	MAN	OF MAIN	C.S. FROM MAIN	C.S. FROM HOUSE						
2046		8/17	3/4	8"	4'	14-6"	22'	10'-0"	6'-6" W of E	C.L.	22'		Ft. S of W.C.L. of
2044		↓	↓										Ft. of C.L. of
2042		8/18	3/4										Ft. of C.L. of
2040		↓	↓										Ft. of C.L. of
2036		↓	↓										Ft. of C.L. of
2034		↓	↓										Ft. of C.L. of
2032													Ft. of C.L. of
2030		8/22	3/4										Ft. of C.L. of
2028													Ft. of C.L. of
2026													Ft. of C.L. of
2024													Ft. of C.L. of
2022		8/23	3/4										Ft. of C.L. of

NOTES: NOL = CUSTOMER NOTIFIED OF LEAD SERVICE  
 CSS = CURB STOP LEFT SHUT  
 CSNC = CURB STOP LEFT SHUT + NOT CONNECTED TO HOUSE SERVICE  
 R = LEAD SERVICE REPLACED

INSPECTOR: K. Johnson

# Inventory Compilation



These numbers change daily as data are reviewed and are only accurate as of April 4, 2024.

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# Inventory Classification

Pennsylvania DEP Classification	
Overall Service Line Material Categorization	
Overall Material Category	Total
Lead	13,819
Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR)	998
Non-lead	54,041
Unknown	444,527

These numbers change daily as data are reviewed and are only accurate as of April 4, 2024.

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# Predictive Modeling

## Methods to Reduce Unknowns

*Need two or more investigation methods listed below:*

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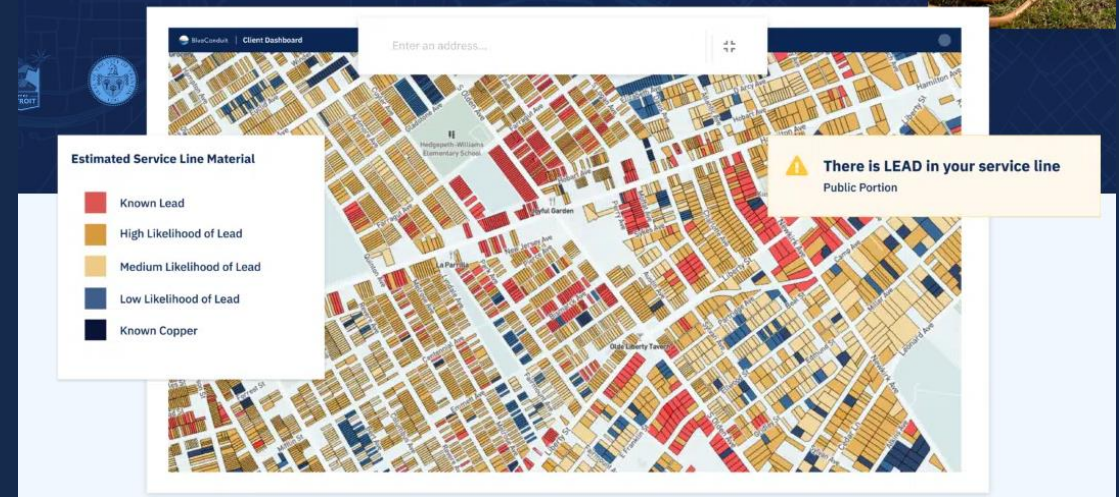
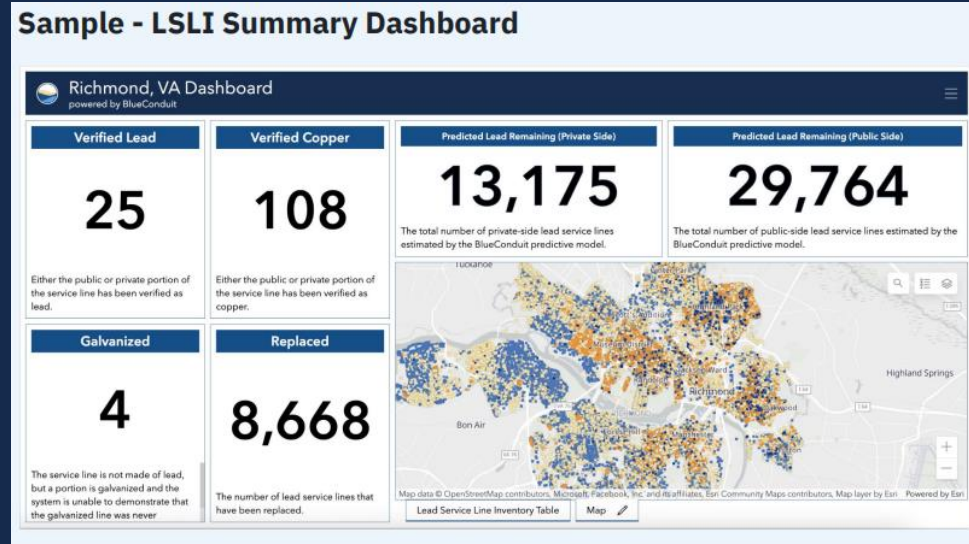
# Why Model?

## Use model to:

- Meet SLI requirements
- Prioritize field investigations and replacement activities
- Support funding applications and customer communications

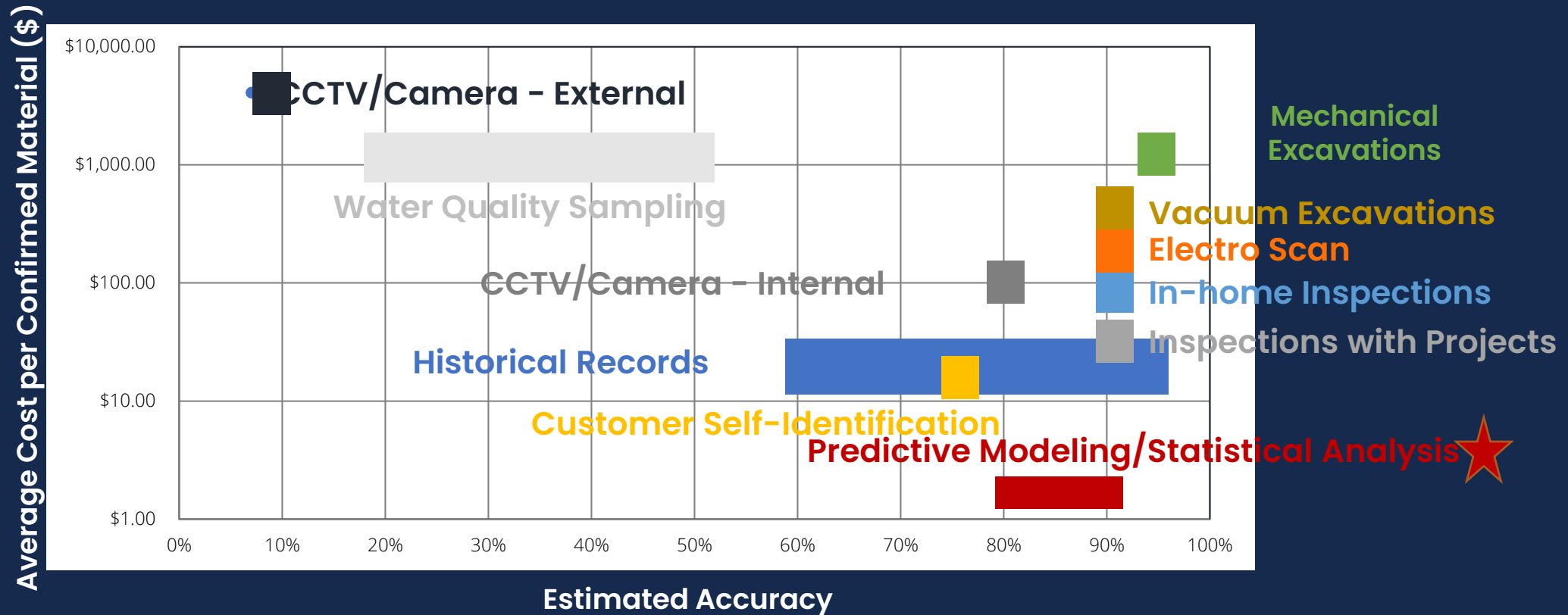
## Benefits:

- Reduces costs and staff time
- Accelerates LSL removal
- Significant decrease in inventory completion time





# Comparison of Various SL Investigation Techniques



Adapted from AWWA (2022) Considerations when Costing Lead Service Line Identification and Replacement

# Predictive Modeling Process



Utility Data  
Gathering and  
Review

2-6 months

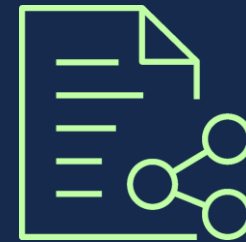


Data Validation,  
Processing, and  
Initial Analysis



Field Investigations  
to Test and Train  
the Model

1-6 months



Model  
Development

2-4 months



Model Updates  
and Re-Runs

Ongoing

# Data inputs requested

- Verified service line material records
- Historic service line material records
- Any GIS records
- Real estate/parcel records
- Construction records
- Water sampling test results
- Water main size/service line size
- Water main material
- Billing account information
- Meter size records
- Census data

Ranking of confidence in data sources is very important for initial model development!

# Field Testing/Validation

- Validation of model is a key component
- Michigan EGLE guidance – max of 384 physical verification points
- Targeting no more than 5% error in the data validation pool, otherwise more physical verification is likely necessary
- Further codified in the LCRI as a requirement for validating the accuracy of all “non-lead” determinations.

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (b)(5)(ii)

Size of validation pool	Number of validations required
<1,500 .....	20 percent of validation pool.
1,500 to 2,000 .....	322.
2,001 to 3,000 .....	341.
3,001 to 4,000 .....	351.
4,001 to 6,000 .....	361.
6,001 to 10,000 ....	371.
10,001 to 50,000 ..	381.
>50,000 .....	384.

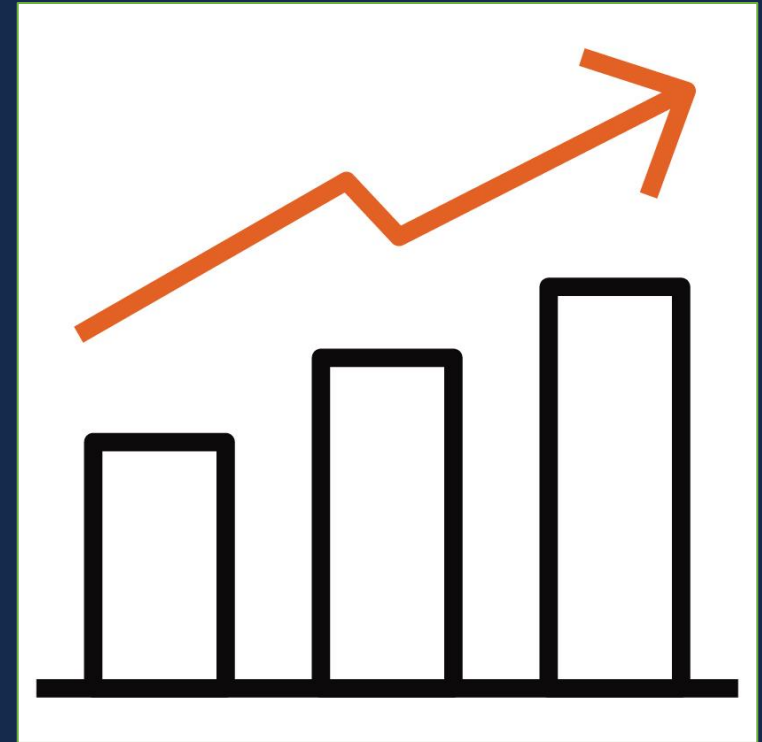


# PWD Model Development Schedule

	2023	2024												2025		
	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
Deliver Inventory to BlueConduit	█															
Test Pit Design Bid Documents	█	█	█	█	█											
Deliver Inspection List to PWD		█	█	█	█											
Bidding and Selection						█	█	█								
Field Investigations												█	█			
Deliver Model Predictions														█	█	
Predictive Modeling Report														█	█	
Incorporate Model Results into Inventory																█

# Predictive Modeling Potential

- First inventory submission will contain largely unknowns
- Expect to have a substantial increase in service lines identified as non-lead for second submission
- All unknowns have the potential to be categorized as non-lead
  - Dependent on model probability patterns
  - Reduce up to 300,000-450,000 unknowns



# Questions?