

## MARKLEY GROUP BOSTON

FACT SHEET – JANUARY 29, 2021

### **Who they are:**

The Markley Group (Markley) is a unique operator who provides critical infrastructure to global telecommunications, commerce, public safety, higher education, hospitals and research facilities. Markley owns and operates two Co-location Data Centers in Massachusetts. These facilities are in Boston and Lowell.

Markley purchased the One Summer Street - Boston site in 1997 and began a two-year project to convert the building into a mission critical telecommunications and data center facility. During this period the electrical and mechanical infrastructure was upgraded, and redundant systems were engineered to support the mission critical applications of its clients. The initial tenants were telecommunications companies seeking a facility where they could all interconnect their networks. In 2004, Markley entered the colocation market and began leasing the facility to corporate clients looking to outsource their data center requirements.

### **What services are provided:**

Mission critical data center, cloud computing, and networking solutions.

### **Environmental Compliance History:**

Markley Group has operated emergency generators with applicable permits since the facility opened in 1999. All emergency generators have gone through the appropriate MassDEP air quality permitting process, as required, or the installation compliance certification process through the MassDEP Environmental Results Program (ERP). Markley partners with the engineers and scientists at VHB, to provide MassDEP the data, modeling, and other related information to ensure that Markley maintains compliance with MassDEP rules and regulations as well as the Federal Clean Air Act.

### **Current and Proposed Operations:**

Markley currently provides reliable Power and Environmental control (cooling, heating, humidity and ventilation) to its client's critical technology operations. The power Markley's clients use requires the use of battery backed Uninterruptable Power Systems. Each of these systems require the support of diesel emergency generators any time the power provided by the Utility is unavailable. All systems have layers of redundancy. The Environmental control requires many mechanical cooling systems (chillers) including heat rejection (cooling towers and fan systems). Many of these systems are located on the roof of One Summer Street. As the needs

of its clients require an increase in Data Center space, Markley would need to expand its critical infrastructure to meet those demands. Markley expects the critical systems within the site to slowly increase in the future. They also make frequent improvements and upgrades to the existing critical infrastructure. The future infrastructure will be assessed for community impacts, as required through the MassDEP permitting process. If any impacts are determined, mitigation will be implemented to reduce impacts to meet MassDEP standards.

Markley has submitted an Air Quality plan application to consolidate emission limitations and requirements from several previously issued plan approvals (310 CMR 7.02 Plan Approval) and Environmental Results Program Certifications (310 CMR 7.26(42) - Emergency Engines and Turbines). Each engine/generator set shall only operate during emergencies (such as power outages or emergency loss of incoming utility power due to distribution failure) in accordance with the Massachusetts Air Pollution Control Regulations and for routine maintenance and testing periods. In order to maintain the One Summer Street – Boston facility below major source thresholds based on nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions, the facility has proposed an operational and emissions restriction.

Markley has conducted air quality and sound analyses to show that the facility's operations will not cause or contribute harm to public health or the environment. These analyses confirm that the facility will not create a condition of air pollution and will not violate the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

**Public Involvement and Impact of this Activity:**

MassDEP will be reviewing the Plan Application from Markley and will consider public input in that process. As stated above, the Facility's emergency engines are existing emergency engines and generators that have applied for permits or submitted certifications for installation and operation. The current plan application under review addresses a NO<sub>x</sub> emissions restriction and a testing and maintenance schedule.

Any questions or comments pertaining to the Markley Group Boston plan application should be directed to Edward J. Braczyk, Permit Chief, Bureau of Air and Waste at [Edward.Braczyk@mass.gov](mailto:Edward.Braczyk@mass.gov).