Children’s Hospital

300 Longwood Avenue, Boston

Ambient provided comprehensive services to assist Children’s Hospital Boston (CHB) in complying with the conditions of the sewer use discharge permit issued by MWRA and other related regulatory requirements. Ambient oversaw sampling and testing to comply with the routine wastewater sampling and discharge monitoring reporting requirements of the permit. In addition, CHB requested discretionary sampling with weekly testing for pollutants at two infrastructure sampling points within separate that eventually combine their discharge to the MWRA sewerage system

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As a result of routine self-monitoring activities of clinical and research laboratory operations, a compliance result may report an exceedance the MWRA discharge limitations for such parameters as mercury, pH, or total toxic organics – volatile organics fraction. MWRA issued a notice of violation (NOV) with the requirement to submit a written response letter and perform a wastewater monitoring program for over three consecutive days within two weeks of the date of the NOV letter. Ambient assisted with preparing the letter report explaining why the violation occurred and providing details of corrective actions adopted by CHB to prevent a recurrence of the exceedance. To develop our information, Ambient interacted with CHB in

correspondence, attendance in meetings, and, site visits to investigate the source of excess wastewater pollution and to recommend corrective actions to obtain compliance with MWRA discharge limitations.



Ambient conducted a monitoring program over three consecutive days and reported to MWRA by way of electronic Self-Monitoring Analytical Report Tracking (eSMART) software. As an additional corrective action, Ambient provided training to CHB Safety Department personnel who then in turn provide training to laboratory personnel to prevent future violations.

 CHB requested assistance for the development of a regulatory compliance calendar as a strategic tool for managing compliance with federal and state environmental regulations at two campuses. Particular attention was paid to facilities and activities which may exceed thresholds that could trigger applicability of a regulation. We initiated our determination of applicability by creating a comprehensive questionnaire addressing environmental programs typically included in EPA and/or DEP auditing of healthcare institutions.