

How long are we going to allow this company to pollute the air in Knoxville without repercussions? I own a business across Mitchell Street from them and I walk my dog daily on the streets around us. The smells emanating from Liquid Environment Solutions are vile to say the least. Rotting flesh is a mild comparison. The fact that they continue to hire lawyers and look for ways to avoid doing what the City has repeatedly asked of them to contain the odor says a lot about the lack of respect for the City and its leaders, not to mention their neighbors. Instead of hiring people and filing to change the rules to be what they want them to be, they need to just do what they have done in other cities and fix the problem. Yes, they provide a valuable service, but the fact that they could not care less about its effect on the air quality in Knoxville is obvious and should be unacceptable to the City of Knoxville. I guess it is one way to slow the migration to Knoxville: a great place to live, if you don't mind the smell of cooking rotted human and animal waste wafting through your lungs! How long until the people affected by the air pollution start filing claims against the City for failure to protect their health by allowing LES to continue to skirt regulations already in place AND AGREED TO BY THEM when they started doing business here? They know how to stop the odors from leaving the facility. They don't want to make the changes necessary for that. They want to change the rules/zoning to allow it to happen. This is NOT an industrial area. This is a small business and residential area co-mingled very near downtown Knoxville and the new stadium growth area. Do not change the zoning. Make them change their facility. They know how to do it; they simply do not want to spend the money to do it and, so far, they have not been held accountable to doing it. There is not a week that goes by that we don't have customers coming in saying, "Dang! It smells SO bad out there! Is that Waste Connections?! Don't they have to do something about that smell?!" When we explain that no, it is not WCI, it is cooking human and animal waste, they visibly gag and ask how is it possible that it is allowed to be that bad and continue operating within city limits. We have no answers for them, because the City has no answers for us. I simply hand out the latest information and invite them to make their comments heard on the situation.