

## **STATEMENT OF BLAKE BROWN**

For roughly the last two and a half years, I have been the Plant Manager for Liquid Environmental Solutions at 1307 Galway Street in Knoxville.

During my tenure as Plant Manager, LES has made a number of improvements to the Galway Street facility in an effort to control odor.

In October of 2024, LES voluntarily agreed to immediately implement additional site clean-up practices including a number of weekly, monthly and yearly cleaning practices.

In 2025, the storage tanks were modified to increase storage volume and minimize tank transfers.

In 2026, LES reworked the off-loading pipe to minimize hoses and hose breaks.

As a result of all of these efforts, LES has made great strides in its efforts to reduce and eliminate odors at this site and these efforts seem to be paying off.

Prior to these practices being implemented and these modifications being done, during the last half of 2024, LES received 44 odor complaints and 2 Notices of Violation (NOVs). (On an annualized basis, this could be extrapolated to 88 odor complaints and 4 NOVs.)

After our commitment to housekeeping and odor awareness, during 2025, we experienced only 19 total odor complaints (an 80% reduction YOY).

More importantly, during this same time period, we experienced ZERO NOVs.

In 2026, LES was notified on 1/7/26 of an incident resulting in an NOV that occurred on 1/7/26. LES responded to this incident and advised that the weather had an adverse effect on how the scrubber exhaust was being released from the stack concentrating odors near the ground.

LES committed to changing the timing of its grease production activities to an off-shift schedule whenever the weather conditions show signs of fog or temperature inversions.

LES also agreed to increase the frequency of the scrubber maintenance and wash down.

Again, these efforts seem to be paying off. Since these things have been done, LES has only experienced one additional odor complaint. More importantly, after investigation, this complaint did NOT result in a NOV.

Going forward, LES will continue to look for ways to provide its very essential and worthwhile services to Knoxville and the surrounding community while continuing its commitment to operate responsibly, cleanly and safely.