



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Vidalia man pleads guilty to illegal discharges in state waters

BATON ROUGE – Today, Carr William Brown, 53, of Vidalia entered a plea of guilty as a result of the illegal discharges of pollutants into state waters in Cameron Parish. Brown is an employee of Mandeville-based T&F Oil Company.

Brown, along with his brother, Lobdell Percy Brown, the owner of T & F Oil, were indicted on Oct. 21, 2011, by a Cameron Parish Grand Jury as a result of two willful and illegal discharges of oil and chlorides into the waters of the state, along with five additional spills that went unreported from sites located in the Little Chenier oilfield in Cameron Parish. Carr Brown dumped oilfield wastes from a production facility owned and operated by T&F Oil into Little Chenier. The waste contained oil and produced water.

The discharges were in violation of the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Following the indictment, a warrant was issued for their arrest.

For his part in the illegal discharges and unreported spills, Carr Brown was sentenced to 3 years of probation and a \$5,000 criminal fine. The plea is a result of the investigation conducted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's Criminal Investigation Division and the Louisiana Environmental Crimes Task Force.

“Anyone who makes the decision to blatantly pollute our environment will be met with severe legal consequences as a result of that decision,” said DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch. “DEQ’s strong relationship with its local, state and federal partners allows us far-reaching authority to investigate and aggressively prosecute any individual or business in the state who chooses to evade environmental laws.”

The case was prosecuted by the Louisiana Attorney General’s office.

The mission of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is to protect the environment and public health. Any persons with knowledge of any spills, releases, odors, fish kills, open burning, waste tires and any other types of environmental incidents may contact DEQ at 225-219-3640 or Toll Free 1-888-763-5424.