

Hello Carrie,

My name is Marshall Bowen. My dad's name is Bobby Bowen. Blanche Wilson was my dad's previous business partner. We would like to take the time to let you know a little about our situation. My dad and Mrs. Blanche Wilson started the business in 1977 and I became his partner in 1997 when Mrs. Wilson got out of the business. We operate a small electric motor repair shop that employs eight personnel. Mrs. Wilson and my dad own the majority of the property and my dad and I own a small part of the property. We bought this small piece back in 2006 after we found out the road was supposed to come through their property somewhere. Hoping that we would have enough left to stay in our current location as there has been a motor shop on this corner since 1982 and since the 1950's on the corner across the street that they were in until they bought the current building from a roofing company. We were sad to say the least, when we found out a couple years ago that the DOT was going to straighten the road and take **all** of our properties and there would not be enough left to stay in the current location.

We have never discharged anything to our knowledge on our properties. I called Safety Kleen a company that charges us to come and clean our parts washer and exchange the fluid and pick up any oil we may have accumulated from any gearboxes that we work on which would be the only source for oil that we acquire in the amount of a pint or a quart at the time. Although we have used them a lot longer, they sent us a copy of what records they have kept that dated back to 2002.

My dad and Mrs. Wilson acquired blocks 52, 54, and 57 on the map you sent in 1982. Blocks 52 and 54 were acquired from Service Roofing Company. Service Roofing got it from RR Forrest Roofing and that is as far back as we know. Block 57 was acquired a little later from the Higgs' heirs. To our knowledge lot 57 has always been vacant. To the best of our knowledge there were underground tanks on lot 52 but have been removed in the past. To our knowledge there are no sources of contamination on these properties now.

My dad and I own block 53. My dad bought all of the parking lot area of this lot from C.A.W. Corporation in 1998. The building on this lot my dad and I bought in 2006. It was attached to the building on lot 171 and was sold as part of lot 171 at the courthouse steps at a tax foreclosure sale to

Jonathan Sutton, from whom we bought the building on block 53. To our knowledge the building was used as an electrical supply house and before that it was a coffee wholesale house owned by Richard W. Briley and we were told that it was a laundry a long time ago and that the underground tanks have been removed.

There are no drinking wells on any of the properties or on any properties near us as everyone around here is on city water as we are in the middle of Greenville. As I said before, we have been at this location since 1977 and have never had a single complaint from anyone.

We really do not want to move and we would have been fine staying here and confident that we have not discharged any oil or contaminants on this property. The only reason we are going through this is the DOT came in and told us they had to take soil samples because when they bought it they would have to know how much money to hold back for any cleanup they would have to do themselves.

For block numbers 52, 54, and 57 they were holding back \$13,723.00 from the sale price.

For block number 53 they are holding back \$3,939.00 from the sale price.

We thought all environmental issues were resolved. Also, some of the settlement delays we had with the DOT were because my dad had a kidney transplant on May 9 and was not allowed to be around the public. He had been on dialysis for four years. Because of his transplant surgery he will be out of work for three months. His absence alone is a hardship on our business. Add to this fact that we are also trying to fix up our new location with limited funds as the DOT will not settle with us until we settle with you and that we need to start moving this summer which is the busiest time of our business. If we are put out of business there will be eight more hard working people in the unemployment line. I do not understand why we have to go through all this when the DOT is holding money to clean up the properties. That was their reason for getting an easement instead of a fee simple deed which they said they would give after they clean up.

At Your Mercy,

Marshall Bowen

Bobby Bowen

Blanche Wilson

P.S. I Marshall Bowen am asking you for help. I am at this time doing the job of two at the best of my ability without my right hand man (my dad). Add to this an afterhour's job of preparing another site for our business to move with limited funds. I do not know what else I can do or handle but I am hoping and praying you could aide me in one of my many struggles at this time.