



Sterigenics' Statement to CBS Chicago

February 22, 2019

We want to once again set the record straight with regard to your allegations regarding Sterigenics and its Willowbrook operations. Based on your conversation with Kristin Gibbs on February 21, we are deeply concerned that CBS intends to use the comments made by Mr. Morales (who we have confirmed was a Sterigenics employee from 2000-2002) to further perpetuate the false and misleading reports regarding the operation of the Willowbrook facility.

We reiterate that Sterigenics Willowbrook operates in compliance with regulations and has a proven record of operating safely, including voluntary actions to consistently improve operations to outperform what the regulations require.

In terms of the specific topics raised in your conversation with Kristin Gibbs, we offer the following responses:

- Allegations of dumping waste into the sewer system
 - Sterigenics never intentionally allowed ethylene oxide (EO) to be released in any illegal manner and any reporting that implies otherwise is simply wrong.
 - As we clearly articulated to you on February 1, allegations of dumping waste into the sewer are at best a mischaracterization of an authorized process of discharging certain waste materials into the sanitary sewer for treatment at municipal waste treatment facilities. This process was not only authorized but also disclosed to the local sanitation district. Importantly, this authorized practice no longer takes place. Additionally, these materials were not discharged to municipal water supplies. Furthermore, recent testing of wells in Willowbrook found no evidence of EO in the water, as predicted.
 - Notably, these waste materials are not EO. The facility treated EO emissions through its dedicated EO controls at this time. The conflation of EO gas and ethylene glycol, a liquid, is both false and misleading.
 - In any event, neither EO nor ethylene glycol is removed as part of the cleaning of sterilization chambers in the process which we understand Mr. Morales has described. We reiterate, Sterigenics never intentionally allowed ethylene oxide (EO) to be released in any illegal manner.

- Alleged leak of an EO container
 - We follow a rigorous process and adhere to regulatory standards in terms of the control and containment of EO. Mr. Morales worked as a Materials Handler while employed at Sterigenics. As such, his duties would not include handling EO drums nor responding to any such EO leak. We also have no record of Mr. Morales reporting any such event to supervisors at the site during his tenure.
 - In addition, we have reviewed our records and have no record of any leaking EO drum during Mr. Morales' tenure as an employee. Furthermore, in the event of a leak, there are clear and strict protocols regarding containment and reporting that are wholly inconsistent with the actions you indicated Mr. Morales described.

- Allegations regarding the use of additional warehouses
 - All sterilization and aeration takes place in the Willowbrook sterilization facilities – not in other warehouses.
 - During Mr. Morales' tenure, Sterigenics did lease a warehouse which was located at 7345 S. Quincy Street. That facility was used to store excess customer product after it had been properly processed and aerated in our Willowbrook facility. At no time was this warehouse used for the purpose of off-gassing.
 - While it is possible that Mr. Morales may have worn a respirator while working in the processing facility, any suggestion that employees generally working in these additional warehouses wore protective gear to protect against exposure to EO is false.
 - There have never been any "secret" warehouses.