

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI**



**CATHERINE L. HANAWAY**  
*United States Attorney*

**NEWS RELEASE**

---

***For further information: Call Public Affairs Officer Jan Diltz at (314) 539-7719***

---

July 31, 2008  
For Immediate Release

**OWNER OF RAULERSON FARMS IN PEMISCOT COUNTY PLEADS GUILTY TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLATIONS**

St. Louis, Missouri: James Raulerson pled guilty to Clean Water Act violations, United States Attorney Catherine Hanaway announced today.

Raulerson and Raulerson Farms were the employers of workers at farms located in Pemiscot County, Missouri. In October 2007, an anonymous call was received by the Missouri Department of Conservation stating that a tanker truck was observed backed up to and discharging its contents into Belle Fountain Ditch in Hermondale, Missouri. Upon arrival at the site, state and federal emergency responders discovered that an undetermined amount of decomposing glycerin that was generated from Natural Biodiesel Plant LLC, was released into the Belle Fountain Ditch. Missouri Department of Conservation monitored the effects of the release and estimated at a minimum 30,000 fish and other aquatic life were killed.

James Raulerson admitted to the discharge of pollutants, namely glycerin, methanol and oil into Belle Fountain Ditch, a water of the United States.

**JAMES RAULERSON**, of Holland, Missouri, pled guilty to one felony count of violating the Clean Water Act. He appeared today before United States District Judge Jean C. Hamilton. Raulerson now faces a maximum penalty of three years in prison and/or fines up to \$250,000, when he is sentenced on November 24, 2008, in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Hanaway commended the work performed on the case by the Environmental Protection Agency-Criminal Investigation Division, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Department of Conservation and First Assistant United States Attorney Michael W. Reap and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Anne Rauch, of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7, who are handling the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.