

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE)

NPDES Wastewater Section

1200 'N' Street, Suite 400, The Atrium

P.O. Box 98922

Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

Tel. 402/471-4220 / Fax 402/471-2909

MEMORANDUM

To: File

From: Mark Pomajzl and Hillary Stoll

Date: September 30, 2019

RE: AltEn, LLC

NDEE ID: 84069

Program ID: NE0137634, NER910444

Subject: Site Visit Report

Summary of Site Visit and Information Acquired During Visit

We (Mark Pomajzl and Hillary Stoll) arrived at AltEn, LLC facility in Mead, Nebraska at about 11:40 AM on September 30, 2019. We entered the facility and presented our credentials to facility staff. We stated that we were conducting a site visit and needed to speak to Dean Egr, Ken Pedersen or Scott Tingelhoff. Mr. Tingelhoff was not on site when we arrived so we met with Mr. Egr and Mr. Pederson. We then requested to see the lagoon repairs and Mr. Egr provided the tour.

Repairs Noted:

- The south lagoon liner dike is repaired (Photos 2-8).
- The storm water berm along the west lagoon is repaired; berm is also repaired on the southwest corner of lagoon system (Photo 17).
- The facility is not land applying wastewater from the lagoon system.
- The facility has stopped using the rotary drum screen with aerial jetting of wastewater until DEE approval.
- The air relief valve has been repaired (between the south and north lagoons) (Photos 15, 16).

Concerns:

- The west and north lagoons are operating near the area designed for freeboard.
- The west lagoon now has three "whales" (floating liners). Only one "whale" was documented in April 2019.
- There is facility fence damage on the east side of the south lagoon.
- Monitoring wells are not installed.



After the lagoon tour we requested to see the process facility. Mr. Pedersen provided this tour.

Repairs Noted:

- The cooling water tower has been repaired (Photos 18, 19).
- Starch bags have been moved to one central location; the facility is working on landfilling unusable starch.
- Beer and pop totes are empty and stored in one location (Photo 20).
- Previous starch bag storage locations are clean.
- Seed corn unloading area is clean. Auger system is repaired and has stopped leaking corn (Photo 22).
- Starch unloading area is clean (Photos 23, 24).

Concerns:

- Beer and pop previously thought to be in lagoon system is now in a surge tank (Photo 21).
- Centralized starch storage area does not have storm water controls (Photos 30-32).
- Track out observed along the wet cake storage area (Photo 29).
- Bio-Char operation area has no storm water controls (Photos 25-28).
- Bio-Char is not included in the facility's storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).

Photos



Photo 1

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: North

Description: Rotary drum in north lagoon that is not currently being used



Photo 2

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: West

Description: South lagoon liner repair area



Photo 3

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: N/A

Description: South lagoon liner repair



Photo 4

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: N/A

Description: South lagoon liner repair



Photo 5

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: N/A

Description: South lagoon liner repair



Photo 6

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: N/A

Description: South lagoon liner repair

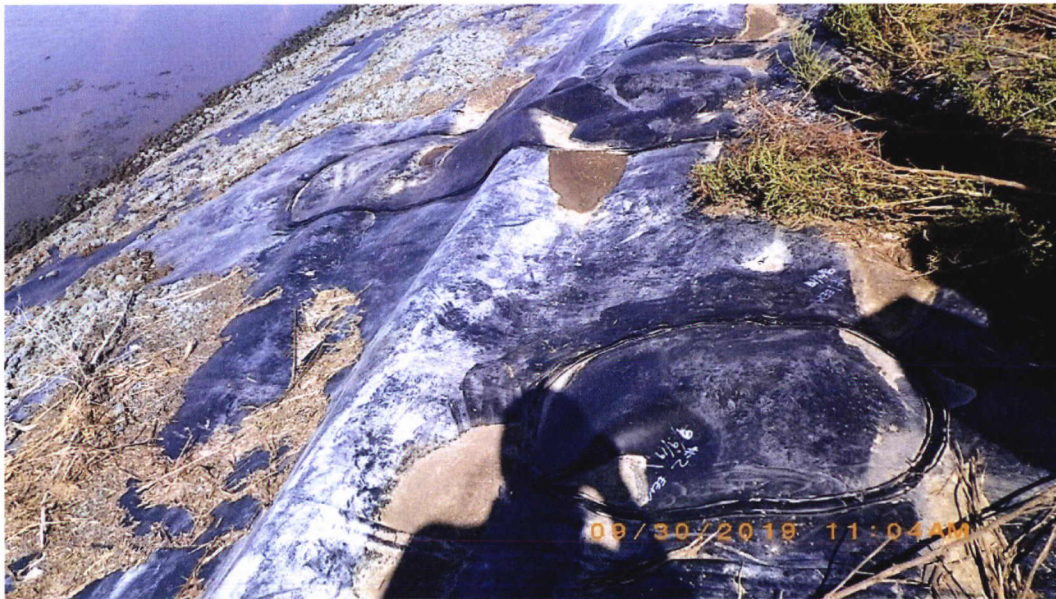


Photo 7

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: N/A

Description: South lagoon liner repair



Photo 8

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: South lagoon



Photo 9

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: North

Description: North lagoon; rotary drum (not in use), leaking liner "whales", and approaching designated freeboard range



Photo 10

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: North lagoon; liner "whales"



Photo 11

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: West

Description: Dike between north and south lagoons; liner repair area



Photo 12

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: West lagoon liner "whale"



Photo 13

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northeast

Description: West lagoon liner "whale"



Photo 14

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: North

Description: West lagoon liner "whale"



Photo 15

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: Air relief valve system repaired between the south and north lagoon system. When the system surges, the relief valve discharges to the south lagoon.



Photo 16

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: East

Description: This photo depicts the hose connected from the air relief valve to the lagoon system (arrow).



Photo 17

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Southwest

Description: This photo depicts the newly installed berm used to control storm water runoff from the wet cake storage area.



Photo 18

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: This photo depicts the repaired cooling water tower.



Photo 19

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: This photo depicts the repaired cooling water tower.



Photo 20

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: These are empty beer/pop totes. The previous inspection noted that beer and pop were introduced into the lagoon system. Ken Pedersen today stated it was placed in a surge tank south of this photograph and depicted in Photo 21.



Photo 21

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: This is the surge tank that is storing beer/pop described in Photo 20.



Photo 22

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: North

Description: This is the area below the grain receiving area and wet cake load out. According to Mr. Pedersen, the facility recently fixed the grain auger system, which previously leaked corn.



Photo 23

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northeast

Description: The previous inspection noted torn and spilled starch bags. This photo depicts that the bags have been removed and placed in a centralized location.



Photo 24

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Northeast

Description: The previous inspection noted torn and spilled starch bags. This photo depicts that the bags have been removed and placed in a centralized location.

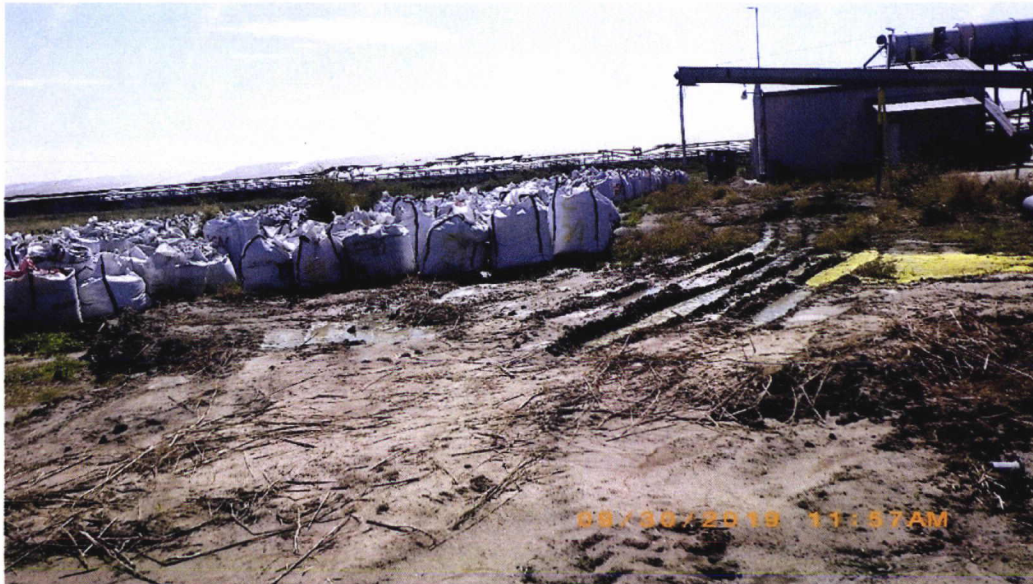


Photo 25

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: This is the Bio-Char location. The photo depicts unused starch. The area is not listed in the facility SWPPP.



Photo 26

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: This is the Bio-Char location. The photo depicts unused starch. The area is not listed in the facility SWPPP.



Photo 27

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: This is the Bio-Char location. The photo depicts unused starch. The area is not listed in the facility SWPPP.



Photo 28

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: South

Description: This is the Bio-Char location. The photo depicts unused starch. The area is not listed in the facility SWPPP.



Photo 29

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: East

Description: This photo depicts track out from the wet cake storage area. The facility does not have installed BMPs to control track out.



Photo 30

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Southwest

Description: This is the centralized location for starch. This is located south of the main office building. This photo depicts spilled starch with no installed controls.



Photo 31

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: Southwest

Description: This is the centralized location for starch. This photo depicts starch bags that are stacked and torn, which makes it difficult to control runoff.



Photo 32

Date Taken: September 30, 2019

Photographer: Mark Pomajzl

Facility Name/Project Name: AltEn, LLC, Mead, NE

Facility IIS number/Project Identifier: IIS #84069, PCS NE0137634, NER910444

Direction Facing: East

Description: This is the centralized location for starch. Drainage patterns indicate starch transport in the direction of the parking lot north of this photograph.

Inspection Exit Summary

NDEQ ID: 84069 NDEQ Program ID: N E 0137634 NDEQ Notification #: _____

Facility/Operation Name: AILEN

Address State 800 1125 1103rd St.

City/Town: Moel, County Saunders, State of Nebraska.

Owner/Occupant/Operator Inspection Contact(s): Scott Tinglehoff

Inspector	Phone No	E-Mail address
<u>Mark Pomajel</u>	<u>402-471-2936</u>	<u>Mark.Pomajel@nebraska.gov</u>
<u>Hilary Stoll</u>	<u>402-471-4252</u>	<u>Hilary.Stoll@nebraska.gov</u>

Mailing Address: Department of Environmental Quality, PO Box 98922, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

Inspection Date: Sept 30, 2019 Start Time: 11:40 End Time: 1:00 pm

☐ No concerns observed ☐ Further agency discussion needed

☐ Concerns observed:

gone, repaired

- South Lagoon repaired.
- Moved stack to different location
- Areas ~~near~~ Southern STAR in which area removed & clean.
- Beams installed and held in place, at South Lagoon
- Air relief valve repaired and hose installed to South Lagoon
- Cooling water tower repaired
- going to remove six foot of sludge before repairing ^{North} South Lagoon.

☒ Actions to be performed immediately or as soon as reasonably practical:

- Stack need to work on
- * Answer AOV
- * NO BMPs → For GARCH
- * Keep up on stormwater. (Inspections) Benchmarks.

Please notify the Inspector when the above actions are completed.

The Department will provide a final inspection report to you usually within 45 days of the inspection. The final inspection report will contain a complete list of any alleged violations. This inspection exit summary does not preclude any other legal action by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and your prompt attention to the documented concerns will be considered in assessment of your voluntary compliance. This summary was left

with: Scott Tinglehoff. Please contact the Inspector if you have any questions concerning this inspection exit summary.

Signing this document is not an admission of liability by the facility.

[Signature]
Inspector Signature

[Signature]
Inspection Contact Signature