

NEBRASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NPDES Wastewater Section

1200 'N' Street, Suite 400, The Atrium

PO Box 98922

Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

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

MEMORANDUM

To: File

From: ALTEN, LLC-Mead

Date: August 1, 2018

RE: Site visit – Mark Pomajzl, Jason Holsten

NDEQID: NE0137634 / NE0204447

Program ID: 84069

Weather: Sunny and 89 F

Mark Pomajzl and Jason Holsten conducted sampling at ALTEN located in Mead, Nebraska. Sampling was conducted to determine the validity of recent complaints of hazardous materials located in the wet cake barn and the wet cake storage facility.

We arrived onsite on or about 11:50 am and spoke to the secretary; we requested to speak with Mr. Scott Tingelhoff (Legal and Regulatory Compliance); Mr. Tingelhoff was attending a conference out of state. We requested to speak with Mr. Dean Egr (Operator). We introduced ourselves, provided our credentials, and stated we were there to sample two wet cake areas. Mr. Egr granted us access and assisted with the sampling event.

We geared up with hardhat, protective glasses, steel-toed work boots and laboratory gloves prior to sampling. Mr. Egr provided access to the first sampling area (wet cake barn), located on the southeast portion of the property. The barn has a conveyor, which drops wet cake from the roof, creating two piles below, separated by a concrete wall. Mr. Egr stated that both piles were the same. To validate this we sampled a composite of both piles. Each sample was randomly taken from areas around the pile, filling the bottles half full from one pile and then randomly sampling from the next pile. Samples were collected, labeled with time, date and sampler, and then stored in the cooler for Midwest lab delivery and analyzed for ammonia, TOC, COD, BOD, TSS, TCLP, VOC, TCLP SVOC, TCLP Metals and TCLP Pesticides. (Photos 1, 2, 3 and GPS collected)



Next, we investigated the BioChar system, located south and west of the wet cake barn. We noted a white haze rising from some bags of processed biochar. When asked about this haze, Mr. Egr stated some bags were burning. Mr. Egr explained that for some unexplained reason the material at times will combust and burst the bags. Four to five bags in the area were smoldering, creating a possible fire hazard to nearby dry grass. Mr. Egr explained the possible uses of biochar, from additives to cinder blocks, absorbents and fertilizer. The process area was not currently on the facility Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). No samples were collected from this area. (Photo 4, GPS Collected)

The last area sampled was from the wet cake staging area, located on the northeast portion of the property. To prevent storm water runoff and discharges, the facility constructed a berm around the wet cake pile. We located only two areas of liquefied wet cake water to sample; the storage area had dried due to recent lack of rainfall. We labeled the sample bottles with the date, time and sampler prior to collection. The first sample was collected on the east side of the pile (photo 5 and GPS collected). The laboratory did not provide preservative. The sample bottle was placed in the cooler until delivery. The second liquid sample was collected on the north portion of the wet cake staging pile (photo 6 and GPS collected). We labeled the sample bottle with the date, time and sampler prior to collection. The sample was placed in the cooler until delivery. Liquid samples were analyzed for ammonia, TOC, COD, BOD and TSS. The last sample collected was solid wet cake from random locations (composite) from the wet cake pile. We labeled the sample bottles with the date, time and sampler prior to collection. We sampled three locations, filling the sample bottles in thirds at each location (photo and GPS collected). There was no preservative provided. We placed the samples in the cooler for delivery. The wet cake solids were analyzed for TCLP VOC, TCLP SPVOC, TCLP Metals, TCLP pesticides.

Next, we requested to see the outdated seed corn storage. Seed corn is stored in two large buildings on the northwest portion of the property. The south building stores bagged corn containing many different brands and types. The facility conveys seed to the north building where it is stored in a large pile (photos) until processed through the ethanol process. In this area, other types of seed noted included Sudan grass and sorghum.

Attachments: Photos, Site Map, Midwest Labs Chain of Custody form (Sludge samples), Inspection Exit Summary

Photographs

NOTE: not all pictures taken are included in this memo, observation points indicate a point where a picture was taken.



Photograph #1
Date: 8/1/2018
Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
Facility IIS number / Program ID:
IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
Direction Facing: East
Observation Point: 1
Description: Wet cake barn,
Conveyer distributing wet cake, composite
samples taken from this pile and the pile
below. North pile



Photograph #2
Date: 8/1/2018
Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
Facility IIS number / Program ID:
IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
Direction Facing: East
Observation Point: 2
Description: Wet cake barn,
Conveyer distributing wet cake, composite
sample taken from this pile.



Photograph #3
Date: 8/1/2018
Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
Facility Name: **ALTEN -Mead**
Facility IIS number / Program ID:
IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
Direction Facing: East
Observation Point: 3
Description: Wet cake barn
Conveyer distributing wet cake, composite
samples taken from this pile and the pile
below.
GPS: N 41.19568 / 096.47845 W

Photographs



Photograph #4
Date: 8/1/2018
Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
Facility IIS number / Program ID:
IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
Direction Facing: East
Observation Point: 4
Description: BioChar System
GPS: N 41.19458 / W096.47803



Photograph #5
Date: 8/1/2018
Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
Facility IIS number / Program ID:
IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
Direction Facing: East
Observation Point: 5
Description: Wet cake storage area, liquid samples
GPS: N 41.19860 / W096.48050



Photograph #7
Date: 8/1/2018
Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
Facility IIS number / Program ID:
IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
Direction Facing: East
Observation Point: 7
Description: Composite sample location
GPS: N 41.19864 / W096.47998

Photographs



Photograph #8
 Date: 8/1/2018
 Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
 Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
 Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
 Facility IIS number / Program ID:
 IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
 Direction Facing: East
 Observation Point: 8
 Description: Composite sample location
 GPS: N 41.19884 / W096.4800



Photograph #9
 Date: 8/1/2018
 Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
 Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
 Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
 Facility IIS number / Program ID:
 IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
 Direction Facing: West
 Observation Point: 9
 Description: Outdated seed corn storage area.
 GPS: Not collected

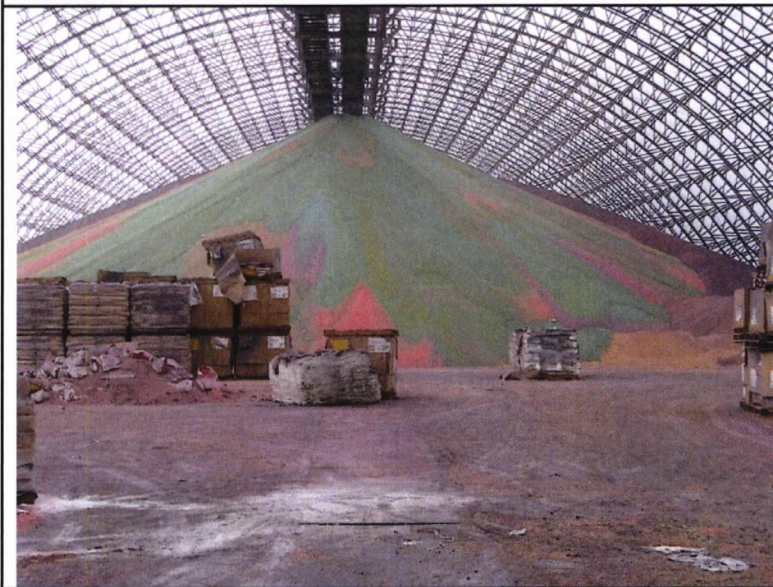


Photograph #10
 Date: 8/1/2018
 Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
 Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
 Facility Name: **ALTEN**
 Facility IIS number / Program ID:
 IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
 Direction Facing: West
 Observation Point: 10
 Description: Paper sacks stored in bails until recycled. The bags located in front are not seed corn but are other types of seed such as sudan grass.
 GPS: Not collected

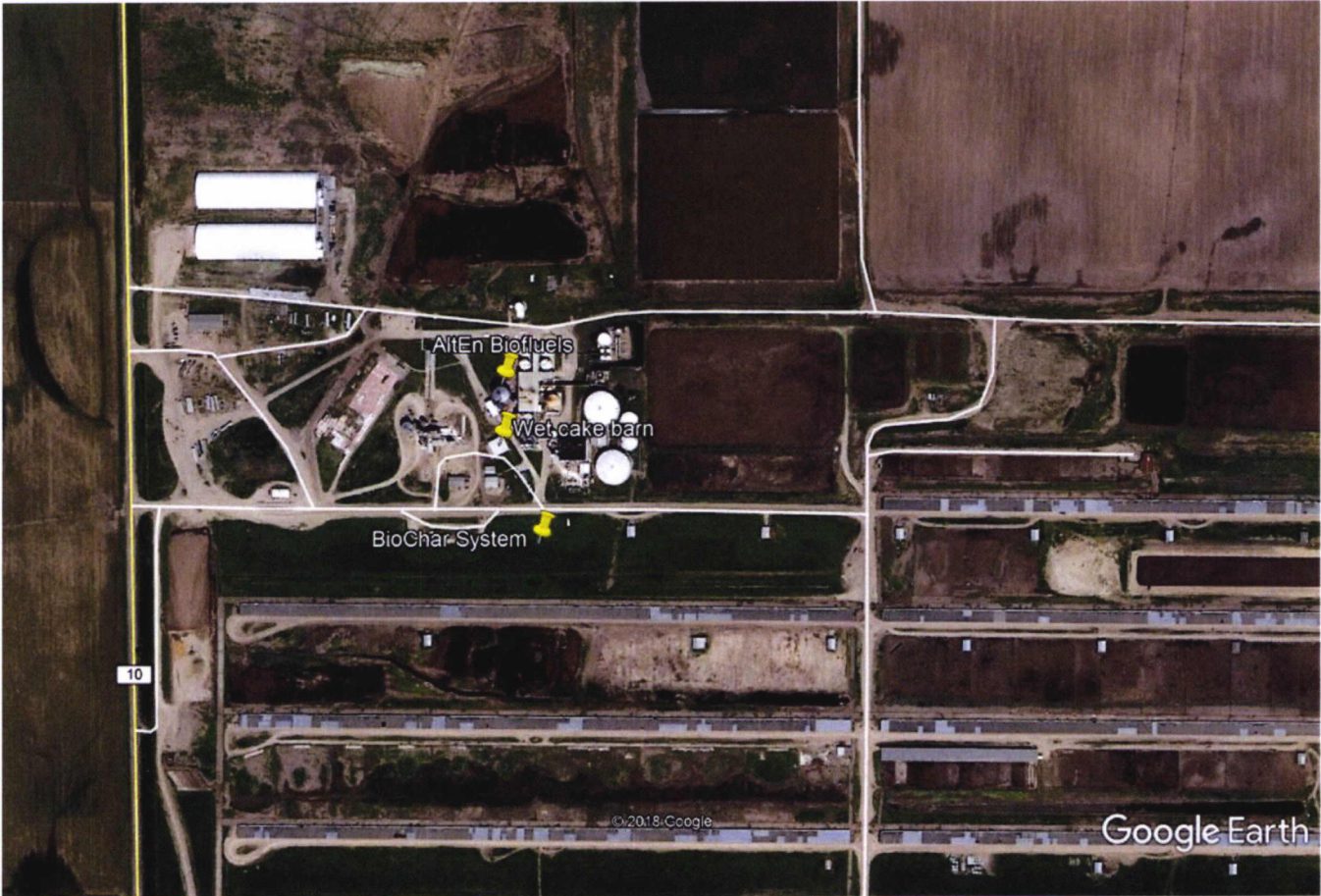
Photographs



Photograph #11
 Date: 8/1/2018
 Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
 Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
 Facility Name: **ALTEN**
 Facility IIS number / Program ID:
 IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
 Direction Facing: West
 Observation Point: 10
 Description: Sudan grass bags.
GPS: Not collected



Photograph #12
 Date: 8/1/2018
 Photographer: Mark Pomajzl
 Camera: Canon PowerShot SX100 IS
 Facility Name: **ALTEN Mead**
 Facility IIS number / Program ID:
 IIS#84069/ NE0137634 / NE0204447
 Direction Facing: West
 Observation Point: 11
 Description: Different types of seed conveyed to form a large pile in the north storage building.
GPS: Not collected





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CHAIN OF CUSTODY

Date Generated: 07/31/2018

Page 1 of 1

Client Name NDEQ - 34564		Project Name AltEN Mead NE		Requested Analyses (Test Names)										Copy To:			
Client Contact MARK POMAJZL		Project Description		Ammonia, TOC, COD	BOD, TSS		TCLP VOC, TCLP SVOC	TCLP Metals	TCLP Pesticides								
Address PO BOX 98922		Purchase Order Number															
City LINCOLN		Midwest Labs Contact Heather Ramig															
State/Zip NE, 68509		Regulator (Circle One) Yes No															
Phone 4024714227	Fax 4024712909	Regulatory Agency NDEQ															
Sampler Name (Printed) MARK Pomajzl		Sample Type (Circle One - See Below) D G W S/H U P												Email to:			

Lab ID	Sample Name or Field ID	Sampled Date	Sampled Time	Sample Code	Matrix Code	Container Count	Preservation Code									Sample Comments
							1	1		1	1	1				
01	Wetcake WW 1	8-1-18	12:15	S/H	A	2	1	1		0	0	0				
02	Wetcake WW 2	8-1-18		W/H	A	2	1	1		0	0	0				
03	Wetcake 1 for TCLP	8-1-18		S/H	S	4	0	0		2	1	1				
04	Wetcake 2 for TCLP	8-1-18		S/H	S	4	0	0		2	1	1				
01	liquid	8/1/18					X	X								
	Wetcake Barn									X	X	X				
	Wetcake Staging									X	X	X				

Relinquished By: <u>Mark Pomeroy</u>		Date/Time: <u>8/11/18 12:53</u>		Received By: <u>Heather Ray</u>		Date/Time: <u>8/11/18 1455</u>		Lab Internal Use Only:	
Relinquished By:		Date/Time:		Received By:		Date/Time:		Temperature Upon Receipt: _____	
								Cooler Numbers: _____	
Comments:						Notes: _____			

Matrix Codes: A=Aqueous,S=Solid

Preservation Codes: 1=Cool 6°C,2=None

Sample Type Codes: D = Drinking Water (Safe Drinking Water Act), G = Groundwater, W = Wastewater (Clean Water Act), S/H = Solid/Hazardous Waste (RCRA), U = Underground Storage Tank (UST), P = Process Water

Chain of Custody will have a signature upon receipt but no subsequent signatures.

RC Form 15 - Effective 10/31/2013



Work Order 1540693

Inspection Exit Summary

NDEQ ID: _____ NDEQ Program ID: _____ NDEQ Notification #: _____

Facility/Operation Name: ALLEN Exhaust

Address _____

City/Town: MEAD, County Sarawake, State of Nebraska.Owner/Occupant/Operator Inspection Contact(s): Dean Ege

Inspector Phone No E-Mail address

Mark Pomajzl 402-471-2936 Mark.Pomajzl@nebraska.govJason Holsten 402-471-4218 Jason.Holsten@nebraska.gov

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

Inspection Date: 8-1-18 Start Time: 12:00 End Time: 1:41 pm☐ No concerns observed☐ Further agency discussion needed☒ Concerns observed:Samples Collected on WetCoke #1 (Exhaust Process)Samples Collected on WetCoke #2 (Older WetCoke North Side)☒ Actions to be performed immediately or as soon as reasonably practical:NDEQ will analyze samples and provide you with this information**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: Dean Ege. 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.

Inspector Signature

Inspection Contact Signature

revised 12/11/15