

# NEBRASKA

## DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

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### 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: Jason Windhorst

Date: February 18, 2020

RE: Site visit – Jason Windhorst & Jason Holsten (NDEE)

NDEQID: 84069 (AltEn LLC)

Program ID: PCS NER910444 & IWM NE0204447

Weather: Cloudy and windy 33° - 40° F

Start Time: 9:50 End Time: 11:55

The purpose of the visit was to follow up on a public request regarding wet cake (wet distillers grains) storage next to an irrigation well head adjacent to road 10 at the northwest corner of AltEn's Property. Upon arriving, we entered the facility at the main entrance and presented our credentials. We asked to see Mr. Scott Tingelhoff or Mr. Dean Egr. We were directed to Mr. Tingelhoff's office where we discussed the purpose for our visit and what we would need to inspect in order to complete our assessment of the wellhead and stockpiled wet cake. Mr. Tingelhoff gave consent for us to conduct the inspection of the wellhead and wetcake storage. No escort was provided for the inspection.

Findings of the inspection showed the wellhead in question to be greater than 60' away from the northwest corner of the wetcake storage and appeared to be higher in elevation than the corner of the wetcake pile. Concerns identified while onsite include runoff from the wet cake storage area on both the west and east side. Runoff from the west side of the pile indicated liquid periodically flowing to the ditch area west of the hoop barns. The east side of the north wet cake storage area showed evidence of the containment berm topping over the dike in several locations and at the northeast corner there is evidence of liquid migrating through the berm. The final observation onsite was the blue dust blowing out of the east side of the north hoop barn. The blue dust is covering the ground, equipment, and parts of both buildings.

All of the findings and concerns of the site visit were conveyed to Mr. Tingelhoff prior to leaving the site and were stated in the exit summary form.

Photos:




	<p>Photograph # 01 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: East Description: Irrigation well at the northwest corner of the wet cake storage area. There is no indication of wet cake within 60' of the well.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 02 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: South Description: From the northwest corner of the wet cake storage area showing liquid running out of the wet cake and flowing down grade to a low spot in front of the hoop barns.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 03 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: North Description: Showing the well head on the left and northwest corner of the wet cake storage.</p>



Photos:




	<p>Photograph # 04  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: East  Description: NDEE employee examining the edge of the wet cake and used as scale. The height in the center of the photo exceeds 7' and dark area behind appears to be greater than 14' in height.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 05  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: South  Description: West edge of the wet cake storage approximately half way from north to south showing liquid discharging from the pile to the west.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 06  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: Down/south  Description: Dark liquid discharging from wet cake pile.</p>

Photos:

	<p>Photograph # 07 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: Southeast Description: Blue dust coating the east edge of the north hoop barn. The camera was not able to capture evidence of dust blowing out of the building due to light conditions, but was visible to us.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 08 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: East Description: Culvert draining portions of the wet cake storage area north of the north hoop barn. This culvert discharges to the ditch next to road 10.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 09 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: South Description: Stormwater/wet cake liquids storage area at the northeast corner of the north wet cake storage area. The blue coating of the north hoop barn is evident at this location.</p>






Photos:




	<p>Photograph # 10 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: West/Northwest Description: Material that overflowed from the northeast corner of the liquid containment area of the north wet cake storage area.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 11 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: West Description: Second area where liquid has overflowed/topped the containment dike of the wet cake storage area. Discharges from the liquid containment drain to north side of the wastewater lagoons.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 12 Date: 2/12/2020 Photographer: Jason Windhorst Camera: RICOH WG-60 Facility Name: AltEn LLC Facility IIS number / Program ID: <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b> Direction Facing: Southwest Description: Liquids discharging from the southeast corner of the north wet cake storage area. Discharges in this area flow to the south side of the south lagoon.</p>



Photos:

	<p>Photograph # 13  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: West  Description: Recently cleared area south of the west lagoon. Wet cake was being placed in this area while we were onsite. The fence line on the right side of the photo is the south edge of the west lagoon berm.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 14  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: Northwest  Description: In this area the north wet cake storage area connects to additional storage areas and discharge from the north concentrates at this point.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 15  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: East  Description: While at the location of photo 14, a photo was taken of the west lagoon at the south west corner. The large area on the right side of the photo is the liner protruding above the lagoon surface filled with gases.</p>

Photos:

	<p>Photograph # 16  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: West  Description: North hoop building loading area for grain taken to the ethanol plant. Note the blue coloring of the building and truck trailer.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 17  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: Northeast  Description: at the northeast corner of the north hoop barn showing blue dust coating the black wet cake and runoff.</p>
	<p>Photograph # 18  Date: 2/12/2020  Photographer: Jason Windhorst  Camera: RICOH WG-60  Facility Name: AltEn LLC  Facility IIS number / Program ID:  <b>IIS# 84069, NER910444</b>  Direction Facing: South  Description: Same location as photo 17, showing blue dust on the ground, black totes, fixed equipment, and white (now blue) truck.</p>

Site Map:



Site Map:

# AltEn LLC Wetcake February 12, 2020



Address: 11344 County Road 10, Mead NE  
NDEQ ID: 84069  
Program ID: NE0137634 / NER910444

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

**NEBRASKA**  
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

JW - February 2020

## Inspection Exit Summary

NDEQ ID: 84669 NDEQ Program ID: TWM-PCS NDEQ Notification #: \_\_\_\_\_Facility/Operation Name: Alt En Energy LLCAddress 13214 Rd 10City/Town: Mead, County Saunder, State of Nebraska.

Owner/Occupant/Operator Inspection Contact(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector	Phone No	E-Mail address
<u>Jason Windhurst</u>	<u>4024714205</u>	<u>jason.Windhurst@nebraska.gov</u>
<u>Jason Holsten</u>	<u>402474218</u>	<u>jason.Holsten@nebraska.gov</u>

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

Inspection Date: 2-12-2020 Start Time: 9:50 End Time: 11:55☐ No concerns observed☐ Further agency discussion needed☒ Concerns observed:

- West side of wet cake storage has runoff draining to West ditch - Prevent runoff from leaving area
- East side - Same as above - fix berm ASAP?
- Blue dust blowing out of North ~~side~~ heap barn on east side. Covers ~~the~~ snow, equipment, & wet cake

☐ Actions to be performed immediately or as soon as reasonably practical:**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 Tinglehurst. 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.

Jason Windhurst  
Inspector Signature

Jason Holsten  
Inspection Contact Signature