

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE)

MEMORANDUM

To: File

From: Hillary Stoll and Brad Pracheil

Date: February 8, 2021

RE: AltEn, LLC

NDEE ID: 84069

Program ID: WWF, PCS NE0137634

Subject: Site Visit Report to Observe Shutdown Process

Summary of Site Visit and Information Acquired During Visit:

We (Brad Pracheil and Hillary Stoll) arrived at the AltEn, LLC facility in Mead, Nebraska at about 10:00 AM on February 8, 2021. The weather was cloudy with a temperature of about 0 degrees Fahrenheit. We asked to speak with Mr. Scott Tingelhoff. We stated that we were conducting a site visit to document the facility shutdown process and observe the wastewater lagoons. The exact depth of the wastewater lagoons could not be determined due to snow and safety concerns, but photos are attached. The facility was discharging wastewater into the wastewater lagoons as part of the shutdown process (Photo 1). After observing the wastewater lagoons, we met with Mr. Ken Peterson, Plant Manager. We asked Mr. Peterson to show us AltEn's current operational status. Mr. Peterson showed us trend charts of the fermentation tanks and said all four fermentation tanks are empty (trend charts attached). Mr. Peterson showed us trend charts that showed the mix tank and the hammermills are shut down (trend charts attached). Mr. Peterson showed us the beer well is currently at 54% capacity (trend chart attached). Mr. Peterson said he will keep a beer well level between 40-50% and will recycle that product through the beer stripper and back to the beer well to prevent freezing of lines. Mr. Peterson said the stillage tanks will be kept at a 40% level and will recycle to keep from freezing (trend chart attached). Mr. Peterson said the boiler will continue to operate to keep steam and heat in the plant to prevent freezing. Mr. Peterson confirmed that the facility shutdown process will be complete by the end of the day and that discharge of wastewater into the lagoons will stop by the end of the day. After meeting with Mr. Peterson, we met with Mr. Matt O'Brien, Project Engineer. He provided an overview of a current project that is under construction that includes the addition of filtration units to treat lagoon wastewater to remove pesticides and other pollutants so that the water can be reused in process operations. The exit summary form was emailed to Mr. Scott Tingelhoff at 2:45 PM.

Attachments

- 1) Photos**
- 2) Trend Charts**
- 3) Exit Summary Form**



Photos

Note: Not all photos taken at the site are included in this memorandum.



Photo 1

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: Influent pipe discharging wastewater into the Northwest lagoon as part of the shutdown process.



Photo 2

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: Southwest corner of the Northwest lagoon. Depth marker is not visible due to snow.



Photo 3

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Southwest

Description: Overflow pipe entering the Northeast lagoon (left) from the Northwest lagoon (right).



Photo 4

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: Overflow pipe in Northwest lagoon (flows into Northeast lagoon which is not visible in this photo – see Photo 3).



Photo 5

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Southeast

Description: Overflow pipe in Northeast lagoon (left) flows into the Southeast lagoon (right).



Photo 6

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Northeast

Description: Overflow pipe in Northeast lagoon (left) flows into the Southeast lagoon (right).



Photo 7

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Northwest

Description: Overview of Northeast lagoon.



Photo 8

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: Southwest

Description: Southeast corner of the Northeast lagoon. The depth marker is not visible due to the snow.



Photo 9

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: East

Description: Overview of the Southeast lagoon.



Photo 10

Date Taken: February 8, 2021

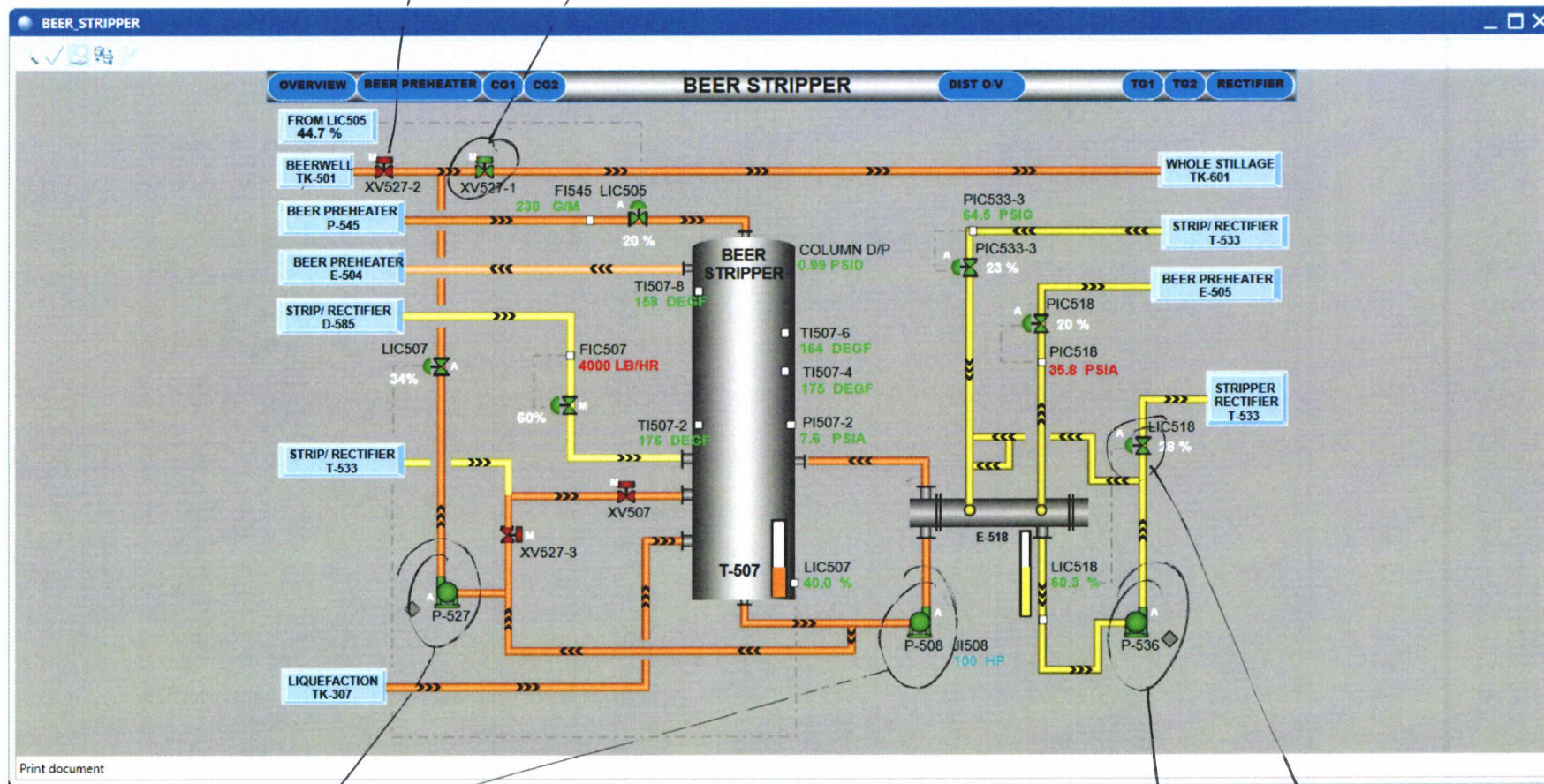
Photographer: Hillary Stoll

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

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

Direction Facing: N/A

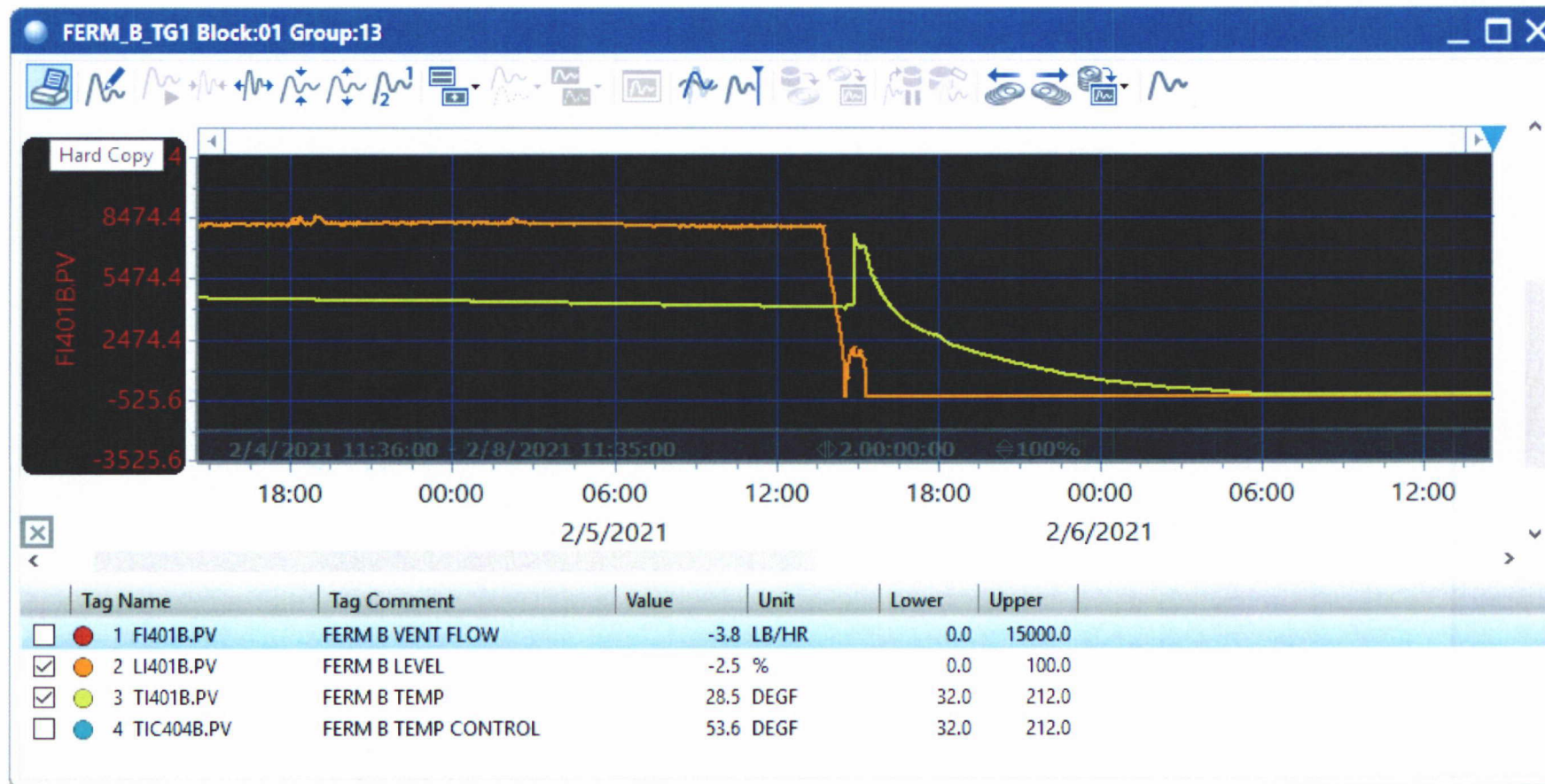
Description: Splitter box that used to split influent flow between the Northeast and Southeast lagoons prior to the construction of the Northwest lagoon. The orange hose is not usually present, but was in place to convey water used to test the new filters that are being constructed.



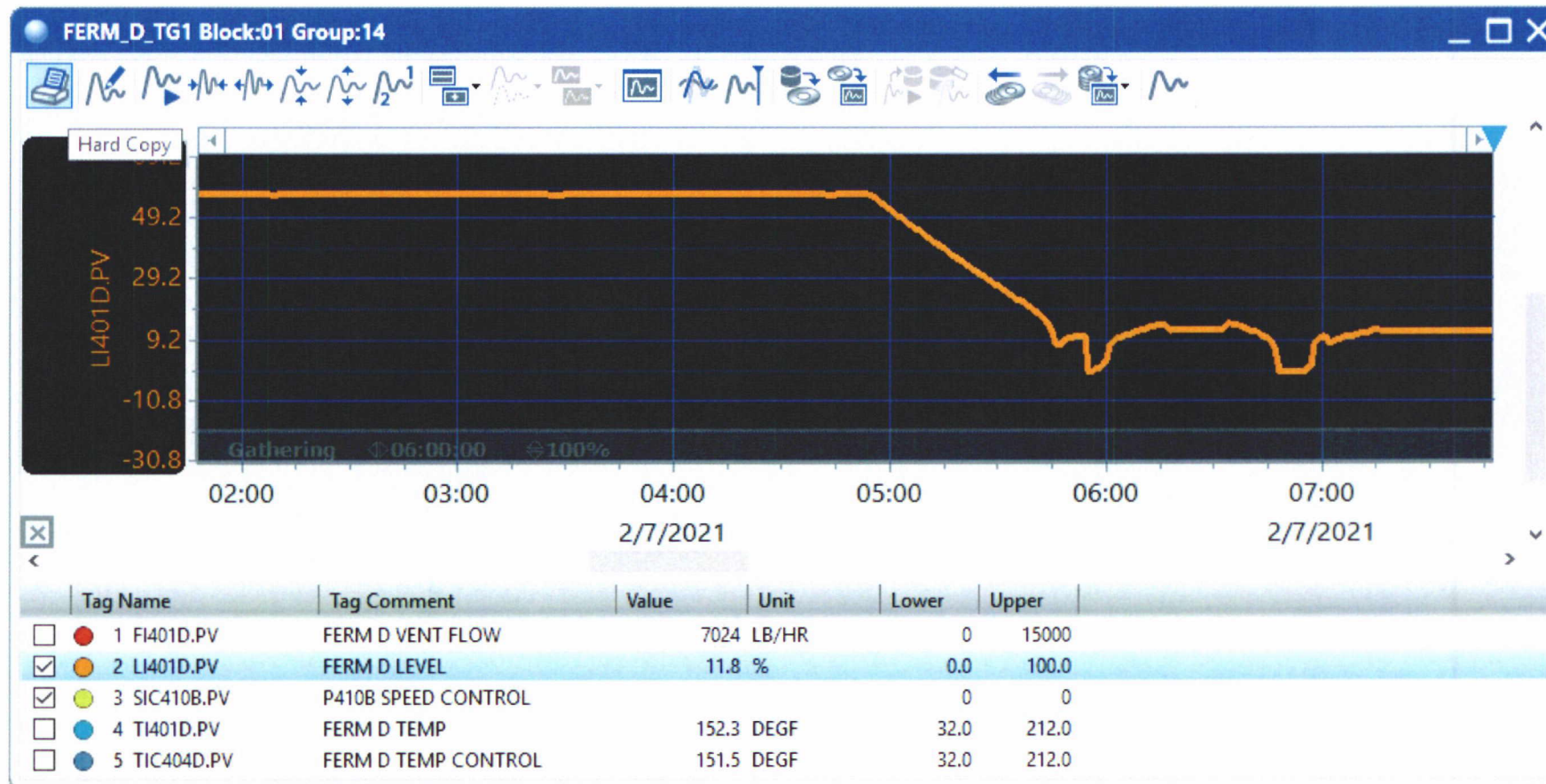
Remain Running

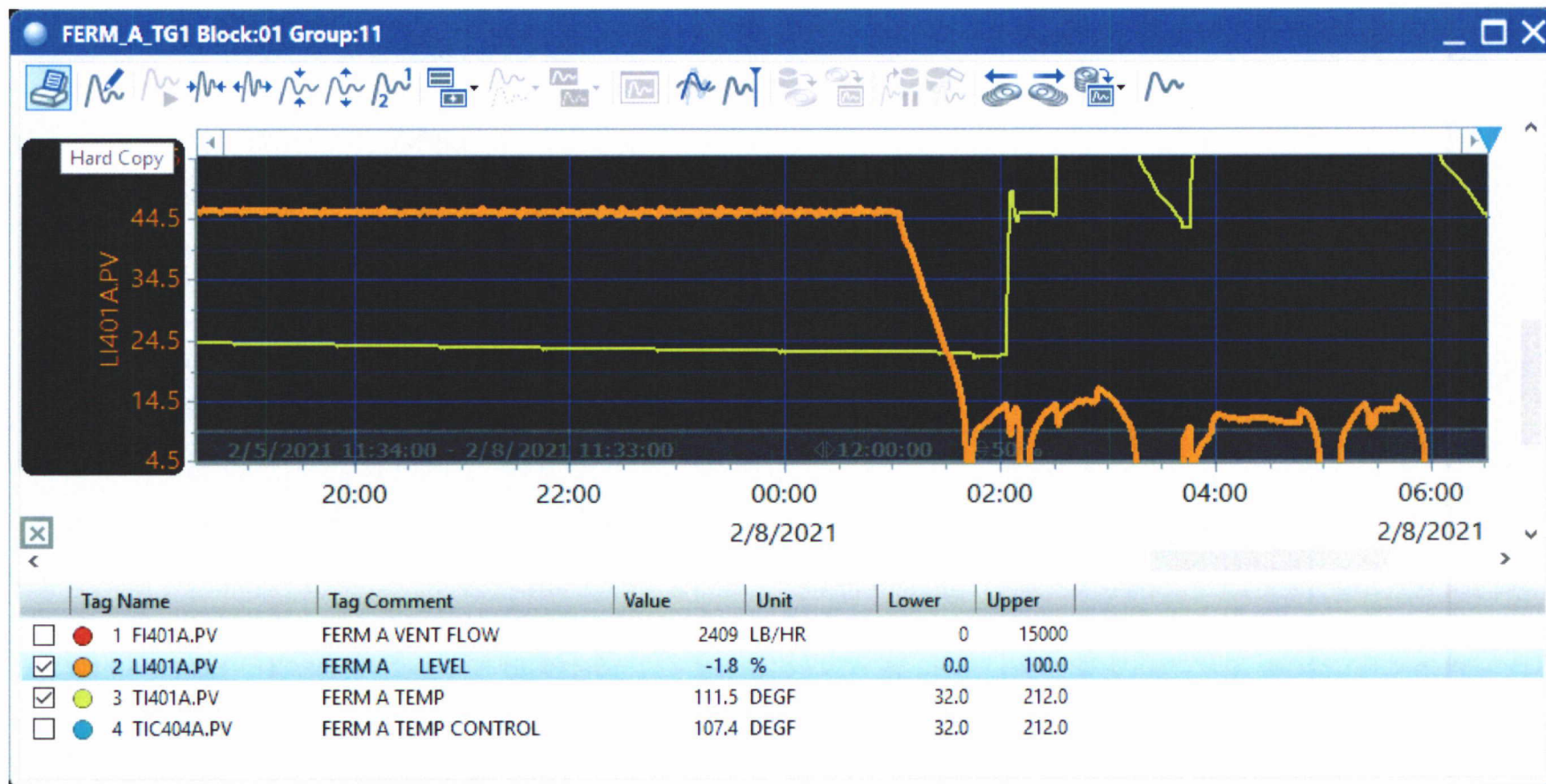
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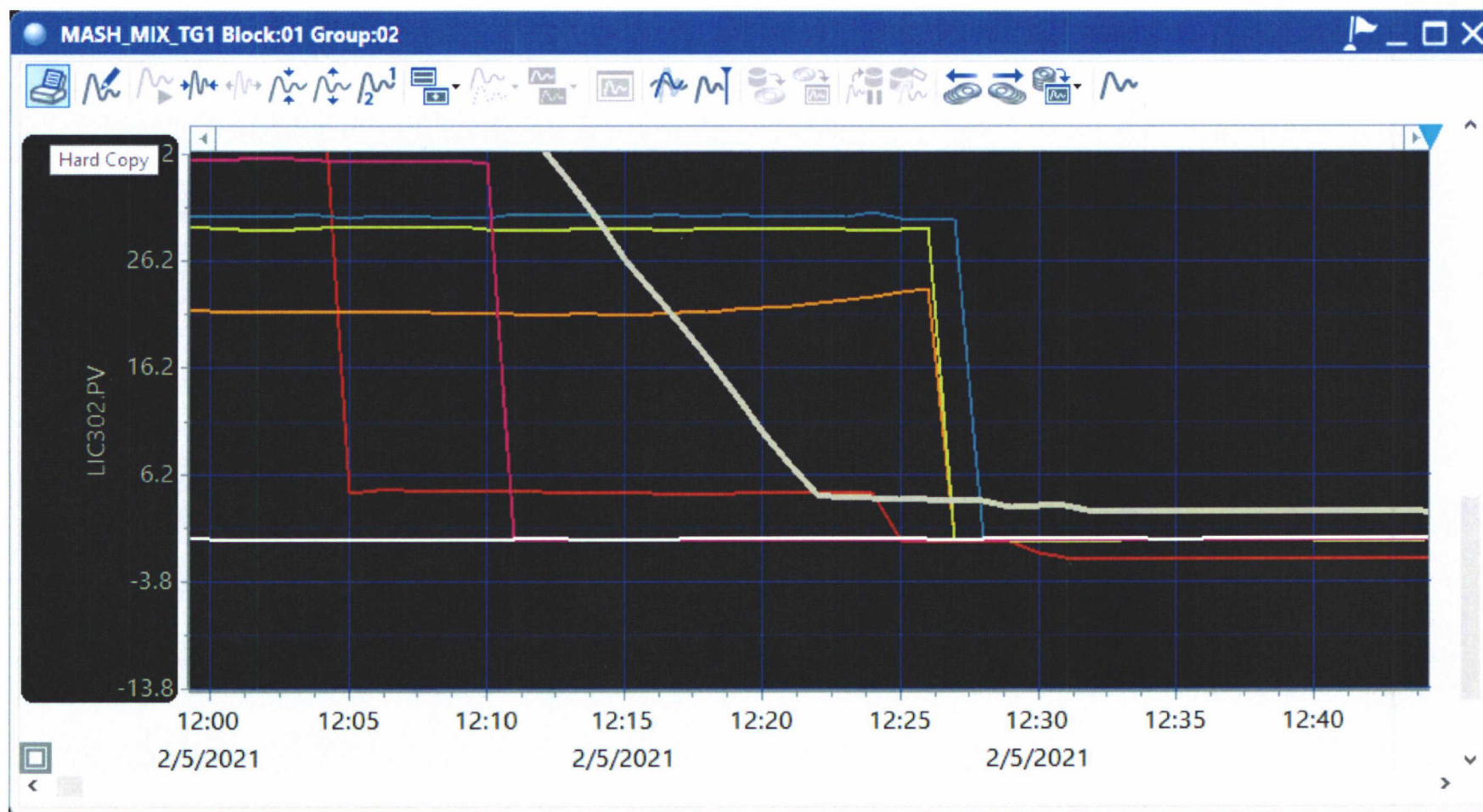
CLOSED

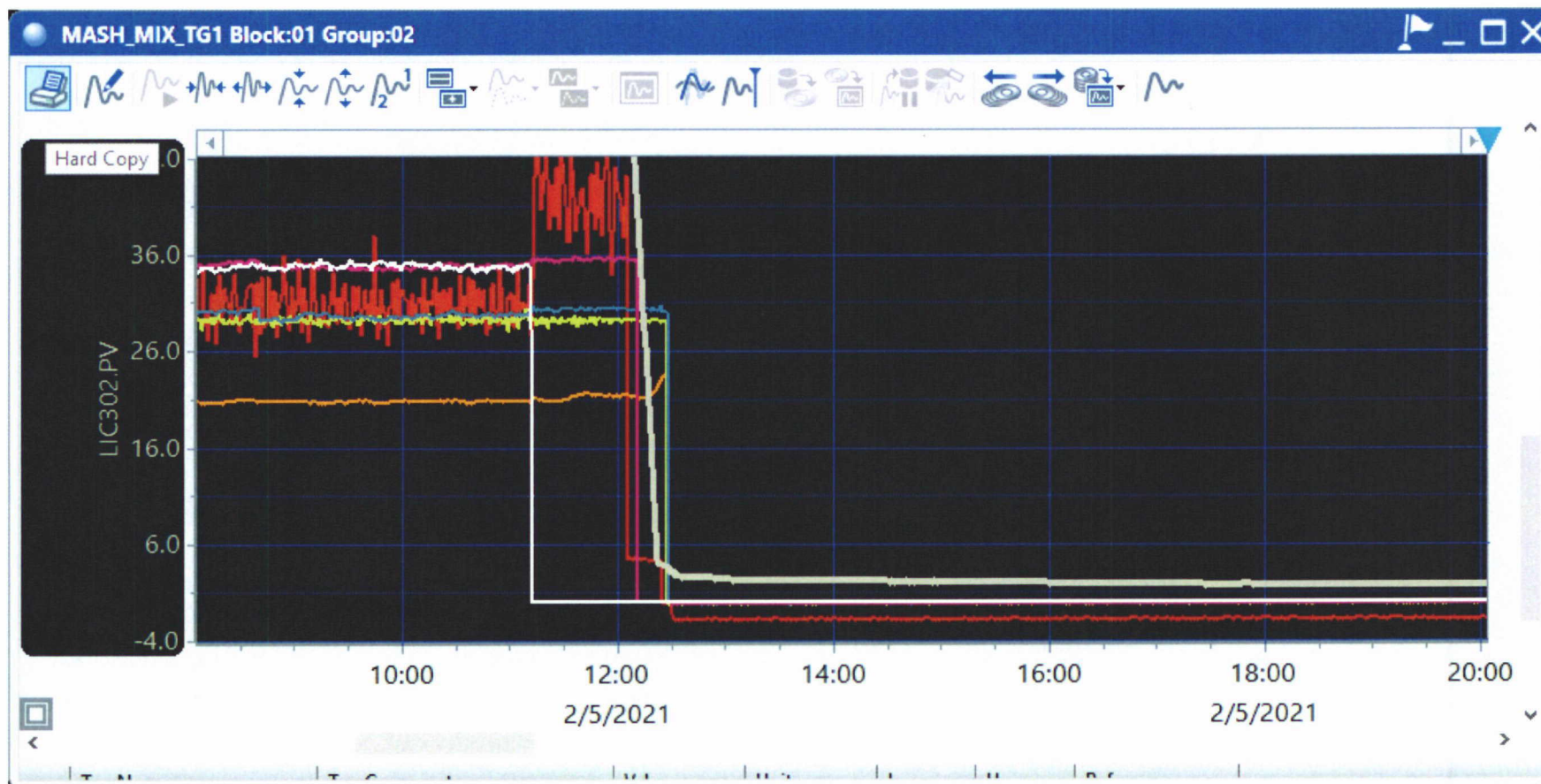




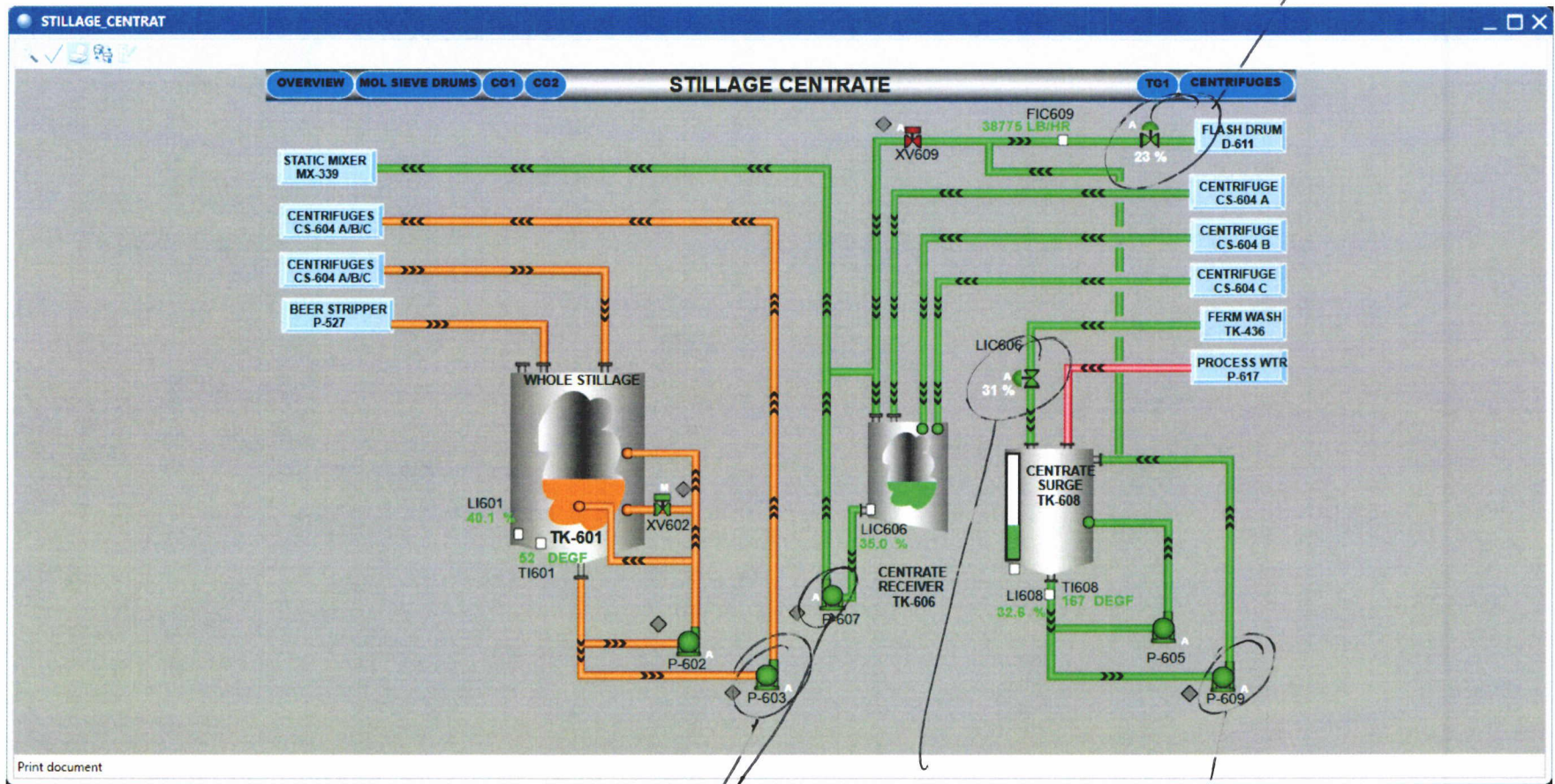








Hammer Mill Amps.

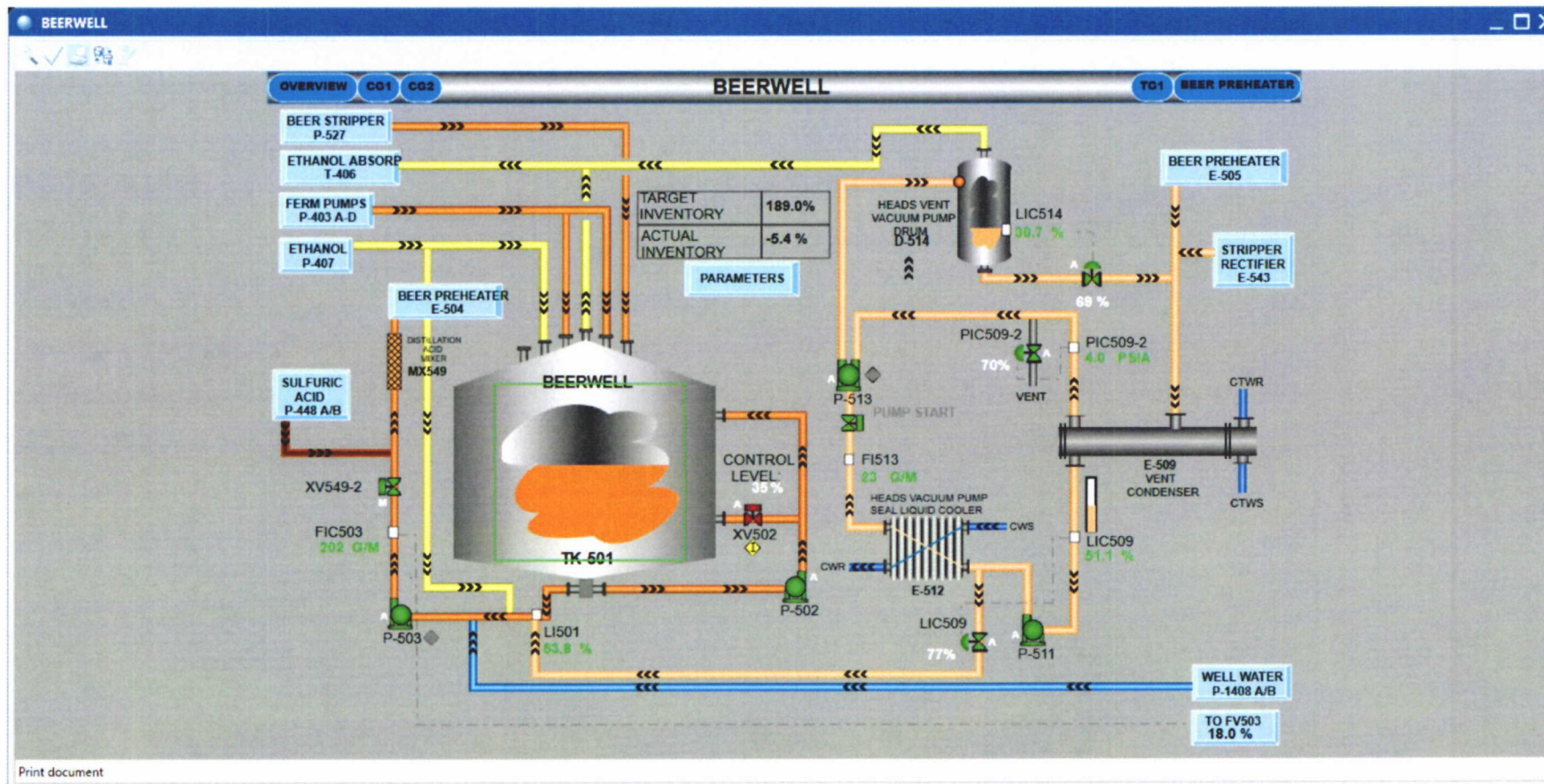


OFF

Closed

OFF

Closed



Inspection and Assistance Exit Summary

NDEE ID: 84069 NDEE Program & ID: _____ NDEE Notification #: _____☒ Inspection/Other ☐ Compliance Assistance Visit (CAV) ☐ Permit Assistance Visit (PAV)Facility/Operation Name: AI-ENAddress 1344 County Road 10City/Town: Meat, County Sunners, State of Nebraska.Owner/Occupant/Operator Inspection Contact(s): Scott TingelhoffInspector Brad Pracheil Phone No 402 471-4141 E-Mail address brad.pracheil@nebraska.govHillary Stoll _____ @nebraska.gov

Mailing Address: Department of Environment and Energy, PO Box 98922, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

Inspection Date: 2/8/2021 Start Time: 10:15 am End Time: 12:20 pm☒ No concerns observed ☐ Further agency discussion needed to determine compliance☐ Concerns observed:Plant in process of shutting down☐ 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 within an agency average of 14 days of the inspection date. 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 Environment and Energy and your prompt attention to the documented concerns will be considered in assessment of your voluntary compliance. This summary was left

with: _____. Please contact the Inspector if you have any questions concerning this inspection and assistance exit summary.

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


 Inspector Signature

 Inspection Contact Signature