

To: File

Through: Jeff Edwards, Compliance Supervisor, Waste Compliance Section *JE*

From: Jason Holsten, Program Specialist II, Waste Compliance Section *JH*

Date: February 4, 2021

RE: Site Visit
AltEn, LLC
1344 County Road 10
Mead, NE 68041

NDEE ID: 84069

Mark Pomajzl, Hillary Stoll, and I conducted a site visit at AltEn, LLC (AltEn) on February 1, 2021. We arrived on site at approximately 0930 and asked to meet Scott Tingelhoff, Plant Manager. Mr. Tingelhoff was not at the facility but Ken Peterson was available and escorted us for part of the visit. The purpose of my visit was to observe locations where distiller's grain (DG) was being stockpiled. While on site I also observed the Biochar operating area as well as the compost pads. Mr. Pomajzl and Ms. Stoll made observations of the wastewater lagoons and Mr. Pomajzl conducted a stormwater inspection. Their report(s) will be separate from my report. Photographs documenting my observations are attached (Attachment I). Dean Egr joined us during the exit briefing which occurred at approximately 1230.

Observations Noted:

1. Super sacks (sack) containing Biochar were located west and east of the Biochar unit (Photograph 1). Mr. Peterson said there were 672 sacks on site. He said the Biochar unit had been down for a month due to having to replace some augers within the unit that had worn down. They hoped to be back operating the unit by Wednesday, February 3. I asked Mr. Peterson if AltEn had found an end use for the biochar. He said there is a company in Iowa that will be taking pretty much all of the sacks however, he did not say what they will do with it. I observed two additional sacks in a different area of the facility and Mr. Peterson said these contained biochar that was drier. He also said a company in Indiana was going to take these sacks for use in trials. He thought they may be taking them to make a different type of biochar. I later observed two sacks in the back of a pick-up truck leaving the facility and Mr. Peterson said these were those two sacks.
2. A sack was next to what I would call the loadout area for the treated seed corn (Photograph 2). This is the area where seed corn is delivered for eventual use in the



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ethanol process. The sack was attached to a hose and Mr. Peterson explained that the sack was used for dust collection from the baghouse. He further explained that the dust is put into the Biochar unit where it gets burned up. I observed three other sacks nearby which Mr. Peterson said contained dust (Photograph 3).

3. After Mr. Pomajzl completed his stormwater inspection around the ethanol plant, Mr. Peterson returned to his office while Mr. Pomajzl, Ms. Stoll, and I proceeded to the wastewater lagoons and DG stockpile locations. Mr. Pomajzl and I recorded GPS coordinates at various points around the DG stockpile locations for eventual use in mapping where DG was being stockpiled. These GPS coordinates were given to Jason Windhorst, NDEE, who created a map showing the stockpile locations (Attachment II). Note, the map does not include a small area located west of the compost pads where DG was also stockpiled.
4. DG was being stockpiled in areas located east and north of the hoop buildings (Photographs 4-7 and 9-13). DG was also being stockpiled on the east portion of the property, a.k.a. northeast corner of the property (Photographs 14-17).
5. Discoloration of the white hoop buildings appeared to be more pronounced compared to previous site visits, especially the north building (Photograph 8). In addition, some snow on the ground located north of the hoop buildings was also discolored. This discoloration is presumably caused by the dye coatings on the treated seed.
6. Equipment was dumping DG in an area east of the hoop buildings (Photographs 11 & 12). I later learned from Mr. Egr that this DG was from an area located west of the compost pads.
7. An orange pipe was lying on the ground northeast of the DG being stockpiled at the northeast corner of the property (Photograph 18). Mr. Egr said this pipe belonged to and was for use by Mead Cattle.
8. The compost pads were empty with the exception of two piles of manure (Photographs 19-21). This was confirmed after asking Mr. Egr what they the piles were.
9. During our exit briefing, Mr. Egr estimated there were 60,000 yd³ of DG on site. He said they have not taken any to the landfill since October.
10. Weather conditions during our visit, as reported by the National Weather Service for Wahoo, were overcast skies, 27⁰F, and a calm wind.

ATTACHMENTS:

- I- Photographs
- II- Aerial map showing DG stockpile locations

ATTACHMENT I

Photographs



Photograph 1
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking southwest, photograph showing super sacks of Biochar located west of the Biochar unit.



Photograph 2
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking north, photograph showing a super sack being used to collect dust from the bag house.



Photograph 3
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Photograph showing three super sacks of accumulated dust from the bag house.



Photograph 4
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking southwest from the southeast corner berm of the west lagoon. Photograph showing distiller's grain (DG) being stockpiled in the area.



Photograph 5
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking west from the west berm of the south lagoon, photograph showing the DG mentioned in photograph 4.



Photograph 6
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking east along the south berm of the west lagoon, photograph showing a different view of the DG mentioned in photographs 4 & 5.



Photograph 7
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking south, photograph showing DG being stockpiled east of the hoop buildings. This is some of the same DG as shown in photographs 4-6.



Photograph 8
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking southwest, photograph showing the east side of the hoop buildings. The north building (right) was covered in a bluish dust, presumably from the seed coating of treated seeds.



Photograph 9
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking west southwest, photograph showing DG being stockpiled north of the hoop buildings.



Photograph 10
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking west northwest across the southwest corner of the west lagoon, photograph showing DG being stockpiled north of the hoop buildings and west of the west lagoon.



Photograph 11
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking south, photograph showing equipment being used to transport DG to an area located east of the hoop buildings. The DG being transported here was from an area located west of the compost pads according to Dean Egr.



Photograph 12
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Photograph showing a side dump trailer of DG being dumped in the area mentioned in photograph 11.



Photograph 13
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking west, photograph showing the northern edge of DG being stockpiled north of the hoop buildings. In the foreground was a soil berm.



Photograph 14
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking south, photograph showing the eastern edge of DG being stockpiled on the east end of AltEn property, a.k.a. northeast corner.



Photograph 15
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking west, photograph showing DG stockpiled on the northeast corner of AltEn property.



Photograph 16
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking west, photograph showing the southern edge of the DG stockpiled and mentioned in photographs 14 & 15.



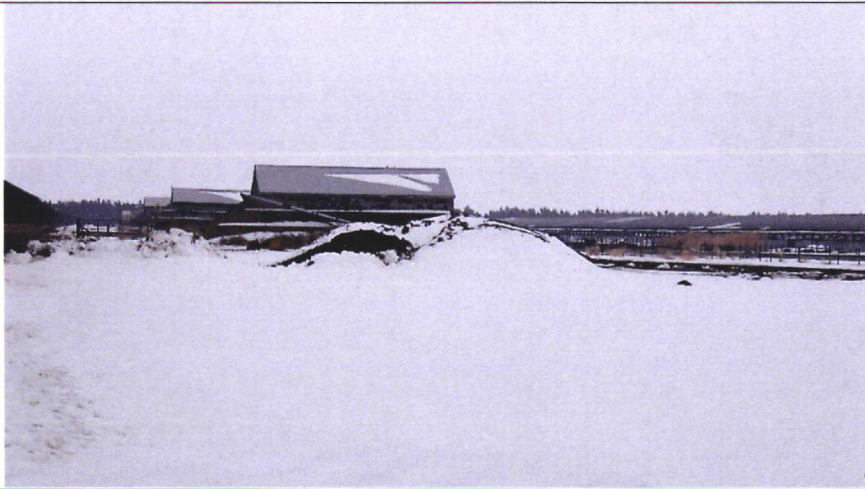
Photograph 17
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking south, photograph showing the western edge of the DG stockpiled and mentioned in photographs 14-16.



Photograph 18
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Photograph showing an orange poly tube/pipe. This tube/pipe was located northeast of the DG mentioned in photographs 14-17. Mr. Egr said this tube/pipe was belonged to and was for use by Mead Cattle.



Photograph 19
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking east, photograph showing material on the north side of the compost pads. Mr. Egr said this material was cattle manure from Mead Cattle and was not DG.



Photograph 20
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking south, photograph showing a closer view of the manure pile mentioned in photograph 19.



Photograph 21
Date: February 1, 2021
Photographer: Jason Holsten
Camera: Ricoh WG-50
IIS# 84069
Subject: AltEn, LLC Site Visit

Looking south, photograph showing another pile of manure located east of the pile shown in photograph 20.

ATTACHMENT II
Aerial Map Showing DG Stockpile Locations

Altan LLC February 1, 2021 Site Visit

Approximate Wetcake Area in Acres



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

0 200 400 800 1,200 1,600 2,000
Feet

NEBRASKA
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY