

**KEARNEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**MEDIA RELEASE**

Date of Fire 07 Nov 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ Alarm Time 17:57 \_\_\_\_\_ Under Control N/A \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of Fire 2455 Odessa Road \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Fire Alfalfa product \_\_\_\_\_  
Possible Cause Under investigation \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Dollar Loss Undetermined \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Type of Trucks 2 Engines, 2 Tankers, 5 Utility Trucks \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Firefighters 28 \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupant ALFCO, LLC (lease tenant) \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Vontz Paving \_\_\_\_\_ Address 2355 West Highway 6, Hastings, NE \_\_\_\_\_

Does residence have a smoke alarm(s)? Yes  No  Unknown

Was the smoke alarm(s) working? Yes  No  Unknown

If no, reason smoke alarm(s) were not working: Battery Dead  Battery missing or disconnected

Hardwired detector unplugged or shut off  Fire too small to activate detector  Other

Details The Kearney Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) was dispatched to a report of a smoldering alfalfa fire at 17:57 on November 7, 2021. Upon arrival, light smoke was found coming from a 60 foot by 150 foot metal grain storage building, which contains dehydrated alfalfa pellets, a product produced from alfalfa at this site. Upon further investigation, a smoldering fire is believed to be located somewhere near the middle of the structure. Based on the material and location of the smoldering fire, and in consultation with the ALFCO, LLC management, it was decided that a large scale removal of the product was necessary to properly extinguish the fire.

ALFCO, LLC will be mobilizing resources immediately, with a plan to remove as much product as necessary to reach the smoldering material. The removal process is expected to begin on the morning of Monday, November 8. The public should expect a light smoke haze in the area and higher than normal truck traffic for the next few days. While the fire is not considered "under control", the smoldering fire is contained to the building of origin and poses no danger to public. The Buffalo County Sheriff's Office will be occasionally monitoring the site throughout the night. KVFD will respond as necessary should the conditions warrant.