

ENERGY REDUCTION AT THE MC FACTORY OF THE AMALGAMATED SUGAR COMPANY, LLC

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With the ever increasing cost of energy and tightening environmental permit restrictions, the Amalgamated Sugar Company (TASCO) has recently emphasized energy reduction and optimization with regard to capital improvements. In basic form, energy reduction does nothing more than reduce the over-all annual energy cost for operation. In the case of TASCO, however, energy improvements have done little to reduce the final year-end energy cost. The realized benefits, with regards to the Mini-Cassia (MC) facility, have included the ability to maximize total annual beets sliced at increased slice rate while also maximizing sugar production rate without a corresponding increase in total energy consumption. More importantly, the energy reduction improvements have provided substantially improved operating flexibility allowing the MC factory to maintain an optimal energy balance through highly variable environmental conditions while maintaining a nearly steady-state rate of throughput.