U.S. BIOCHAR COALITION MISSION

- Advocate for legislative, policy, & regulatory action to build and open markets for the production and use of biochar in the U.S.;
- Raise federal policy, legislative & regulatory awareness of the benefits of biochar systems and products to break down barriers to growth;
- Deconstruct silos between the biochar business community & end use market sectors to cross pollinate opportunities for growth;
- Unite biochar industry leaders, create opportunities for collaboration, build a platform for action.

CREATING A UNIFIED VOICE

The Coalition’s platform is specifically designed and uniquely suited to elevate awareness among policy makers, public, and end markets of the biochar industry’s capacity to achieve U.S. economic development, climate resilience, and energy independence goals. Long overlooked and lacking a unified industry voice and lobbying presence, the biochar industry currently produces a mere 1% of its projected production capacity in the U.S.

With more than 100 expressions of interest in membership from companies spanning the entire biochar ecosystem: producers, technology providers, developers, R&D, finance, carbon markets, climate tech, carbon removal, and diverse end markets; and 100 more companies on our membership list, the Coalition is poised to raise the voice of biochar in a powerful way and dramatically transform the industry’s growth trajectory.

WHY NOW

The world is on course for a 2.7C in global temperature rise: “Achieving transition at speed and scale in a socially and economically sustainable way is our greatest challenge.” - IPCC

Biochar is uniquely positioned, as “one of only a few permanent carbon removal technologies, and the one at highest technology readiness level” to meet the “massive incoming demand for carbon removal.” According to the US Department of Energy, the US generates 700 million dry tons of timber and agricultural waste biomass each year. This combined with unparalleled climate, social, environmental, and financial co-benefits, makes biochar the U.S.’s most valuable carbon removal tool. In the same turn, it is also the most underfunded, undervalued, underutilized, and unseen. The Coalition is on a mission to change that.

Current CDR capacity must grow to the size of the oil and industry by 2050. There is no historical precedent for the speed and scale at which carbon removal and climate resilience industries must be built. Biochar can maximize the carbon and social impact of every dollar spent, action taken, and product made creating a tremendous opportunity for American farmers, foresters, and rural communities to prosper.
There is no more powerful full spectrum climate solution available to us than biochar. The U.S. Biochar Coalition is galvanizing the collective power of businesses, investors, and civil society to influence and accelerate policy change, secure action for industry growth, and build the political infrastructure and collaborative industry relationships we’ll need to scale biochar across multiple markets.

When applied to soil, biochar supports regenerative agriculture, improves soil health, and pays climate dividends long after the initial biochar application. Soils made healthier by biochar could generate $50 billion in social and environmental impacts annually and $37 million in on-farm economic value. “Good soil is gold for businesses” and will require $700 billion capital expenditure over next 30 years generating $10 Trillion in net financial return.

Moreover, biochar has immense potential to stimulate innovation and growth of the bioeconomy. In addition to its CDR and agronomic benefits, biochar reduces the carbon intensity and enhances the performance of hard to abate products like construction materials, cement, and plastics, among others. Leveraging the multiple benefits of biochar to achieve climate and economic development goals should be on every policy maker’s agenda.

Integrating carbon negative bioenergy production with biochar CDR creates a pathway to removing and avoiding billions of tons of CO2, and to creating billions of dollars in economic opportunity for rural communities. At a mere 3% of U.S. energy today, bioenergy will provide 28% of U.S. renewable energy, and 40% of U.S. transportation fuels by 2050, presenting an opportunity for vibrant growth of biochar systems.

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The 2023 Farm Bill offers an unprecedented opportunity at a crucial moment in time to implement strategic changes at USDA to enable more farmers and forest landowners to adopt climate smart practices and climate proof their livelihoods by utilizing biochar in existing core Farm Bill programs. The Coalition is moving fast to ensure biochar has a seat at the table and a significant voice in this once in every 5 years must pass legislation. We need your support to make that happen.
Looking Ahead

The Coalition plans to work towards achieving the following:

- Biochar Systems Incentives, Investment, & Production Tax Credits.
- A USDA, EPA, DOE supported Biochar Industry Road Map.
- Biochar industry NAICS Code.
- Building awareness & breaking down silos around the biochar industry between and within EPA, USDA, DOE, DOT, Treasury, GAO, U.S. Climate Hubs, the White House, and others.
- Implementation of USDA, Forest Service programs & GAO recommendations to support the biochar industry at scale.
- Beneficial treatment of pyrolysis and gasification used in biochar systems by EPA and other regulatory bodies.
- Cross Industry Association Partnerships.
- Other issues raised by Membership.

Next Steps

USBC is committed to building an inclusive platform for industry advocacy, leadership, and growth. We seek to address the concerns and barriers faced by biochar businesses large and small. The voice of every business united in our common goal matters to us and is essential to USBC doing its best work on behalf of the industry. We encourage those with needs-based concerns to get in touch to discuss opportunities to join our work together. The biochar opportunity for climate prosperity is tremendous and we have no time to waste.

Let’s leverage the powerful combination of industry collaboration and smart policy strategy to build markets and start scaling channels for deployment of the U.S. biochar economy today. To join us, next steps include completing a short in-take application and invoicing. Please let us know if you have any questions. We cannot wait to work with you.

With Deepest Gratitude

Amy McCrae Kessler
Esq., Co-Founder, U.S. Biochar Coalition; President & Co-Founder, Facet Power; Director & Co-Founder, Quintessential

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Co-Founder, U.S. Biochar Coalition; Partnerships & Policy Director

Become a Member Today!