



Forest Biomass to Carbon-Negative Biofuels Pilot Program Phase 1 Awards List

The Department of Conservation (Department) received a \$50 million budget allocation in the Fiscal Year 21-22 budget – made available in July 2022 – to create carbon-negative fuels from materials resulting from forest vegetation management. The Department is administering this grant program in close coordination with the California Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission and the California Air Resources Board, as well as the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, California Public Utilities Commission, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, and California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

The budget allocation requires that all funded projects identify a California use for the hydrogen or liquid fuel produced and have a net-negative lifecycle analysis of the carbon emitted and sequestered from the project, including transportation emissions related to feedstock procurement and fuel delivery, and carbon dioxide to end uses. The funds are required to be awarded to projects located within the Sierra Nevada.

With the interagency team identified above, the Department of Conservation has selected the following eight project proposals for funding in Phase 1 (the planning phase) of the Forest Biomass to Carbon-Negative Biofuels Pilot Program:

Rank	Applicant	Project Title	Phase 1 Award
1	Yosemite Clean Energy, LLC	Yosemite Clean Energy Sierra Biomass to Carbon Negative Fuels Plant	\$500,000
2	Yosemite Clean Energy, LLC	Yosemite Clean Energy Paradise Biomass to Carbon Negative Fuels Plant	\$500,000
3	Sierra Institute for Community and Environment	Nor Cal Waste to Renewable Hydrogen	\$500,000
4	Mote, Inc.	Sacramento Carbon Negative Hydrogen Project 1	\$500,000

5	Arbor Energy and Resources Corporation	Arbor Biomass Gasification Facility	\$500,000
6	Kore Infrastructure, LLC	Kore/Tule River Forest Biomass to Carbon Negative Biofuel	\$500,000
7	Biogas Energy Inc.	Cabin Creek Biomass Pyrolysis Facility	\$500,000
8	Redding Rancheria Economic Development Corporation	RREDCO Forest Biomass to Carbon-Negative Biofuels Pilot Program	\$500,000

Program funds are being awarded through a competitive solicitation, in two phases:

- 1) **Planning (Phase 1):** A maximum award of \$500,000 per awardee, up to \$4,000,000 total, to support technology demonstration and planning activities that simultaneously manage catastrophic wildfire risks, address rural economic development, and develop carbon negative fuels.
- 2) **Implementation (Phase 2):** Awards between \$10-20 million, up to a maximum of four awards, to establish facilities that will produce carbon negative biofuels. Phase 2 will be open to any applicant, including those that did not receive or apply for Phase 1 funds. Applicants who received Phase 1 funding are not guaranteed Phase 2 funding and will need to apply for additional funding.

The Department looks forward to partnering with these awardees, and continued partnership with the interagency team. These projects support the state's goals of advancing forest biofuels development and strong associated project co-benefits, including increasing forest health, wildfire risk reduction, supporting California's carbon-neutral future, and overall rural economic development.

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