

Roads to Removal

A Comprehensive Assessment of Carbon Dioxide Removal Options in the United States

Pete Psarras

University of Pennsylvania

Jennifer Pett-Ridge, Sarah E. Baker, Bruno Basso, Mark Bradford, Susan Hovorka, Sara Kuebbing, Kimberley K. Mayfield, Allegra Mayer, Simon Pang, George Peridas, Briana Schmidt, Corinne Scown, Eric Slessarev, G. Philip Robertson, Roger D. Aines...
(+ many more)



THE CALIFORNIA REPORT

THE UNITED STATES REPORT



Achieving US national carbon removal goals is possible

The United States can remove at least

1B

tonnes of CO₂ per year by 2050 using demonstrated technologies

1 billion tonnes CO₂ removal per year has an average estimated cost of

\$129B

per year (\$129 per tonne CO₂)

Carbon removal activities have the potential to create more than

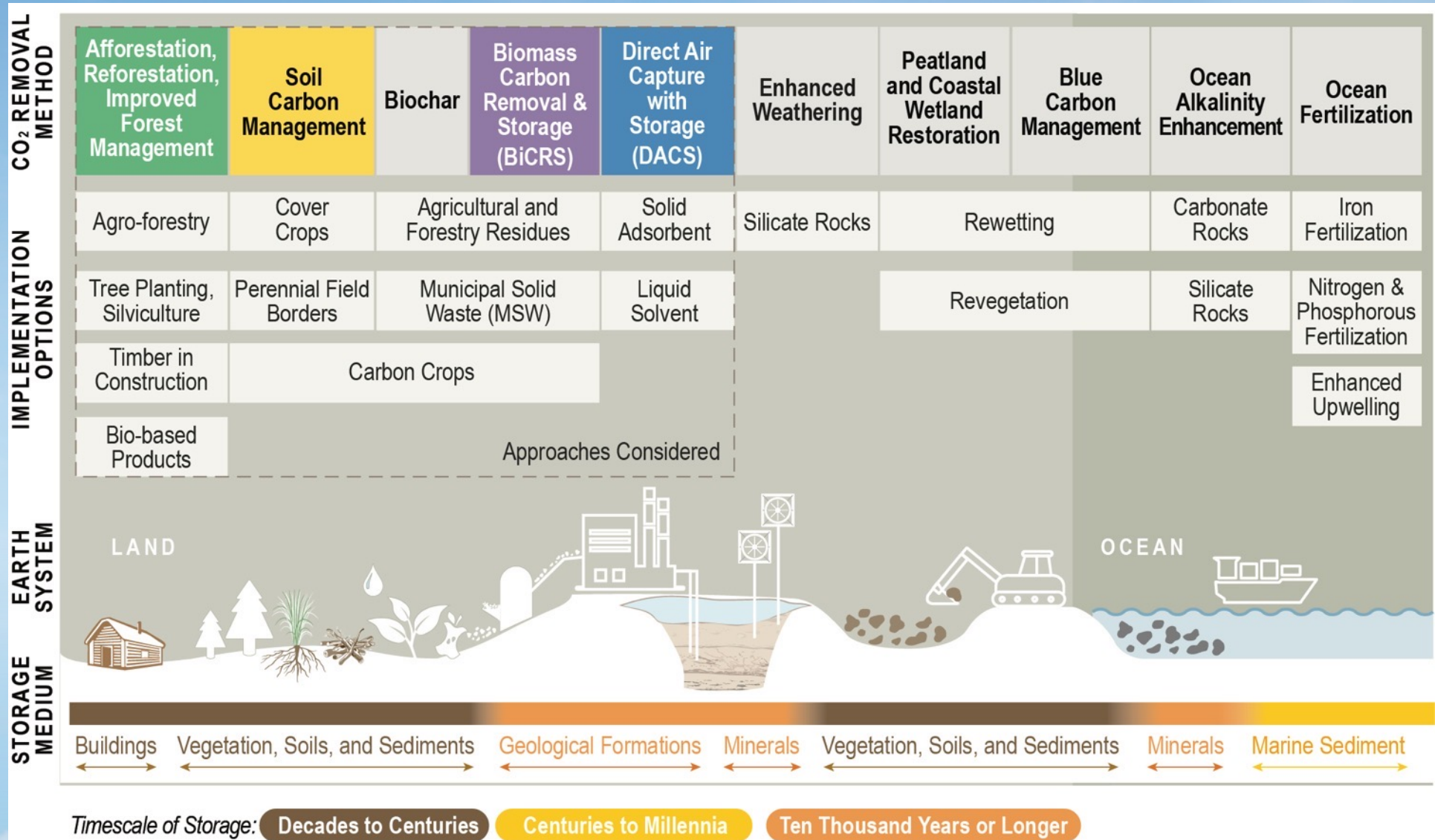
440,000

long-term jobs nationwide

Our analysis focused on *mature* tech

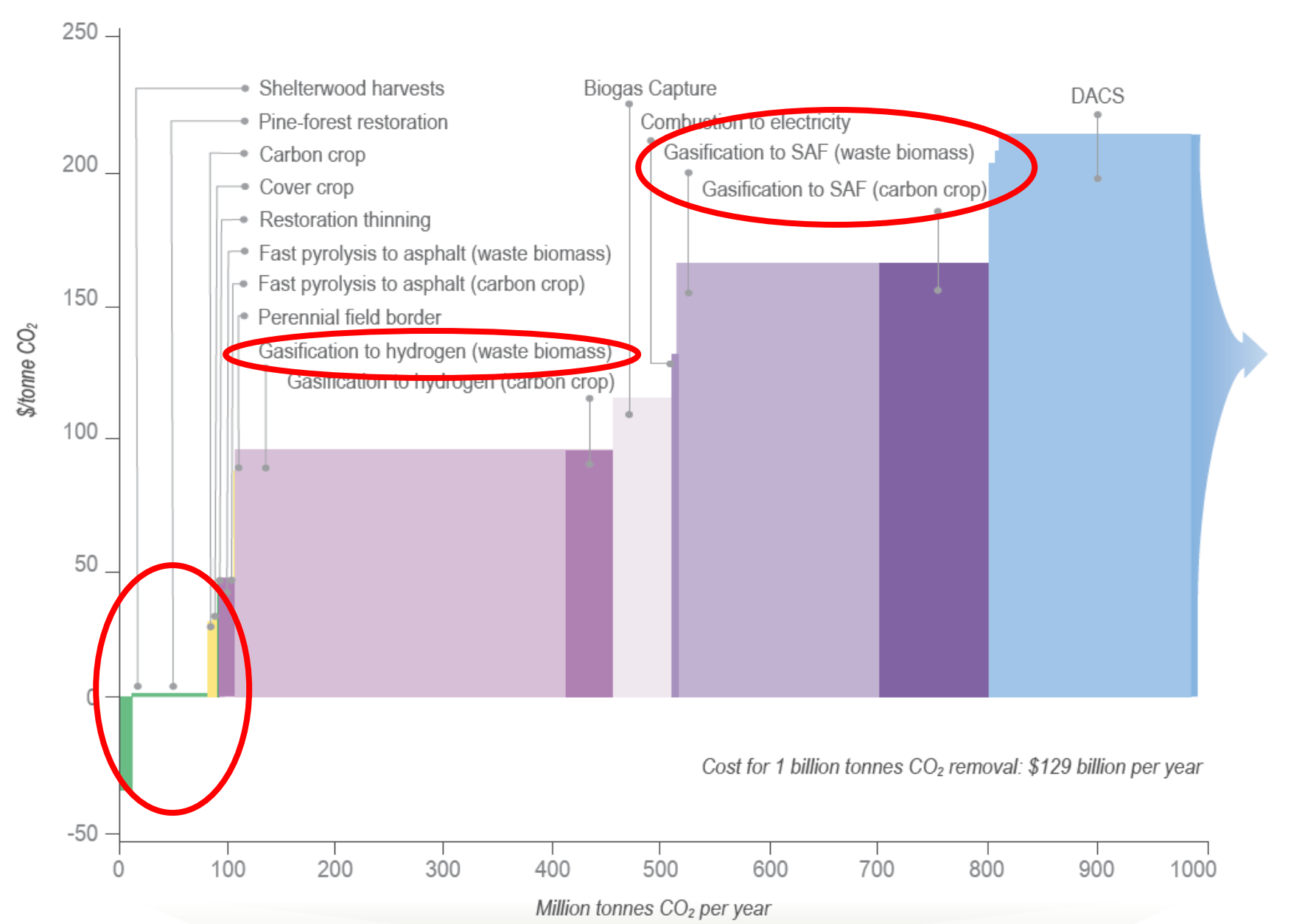
**Must be 'true' negative emissions

**Only 'mature technologies'



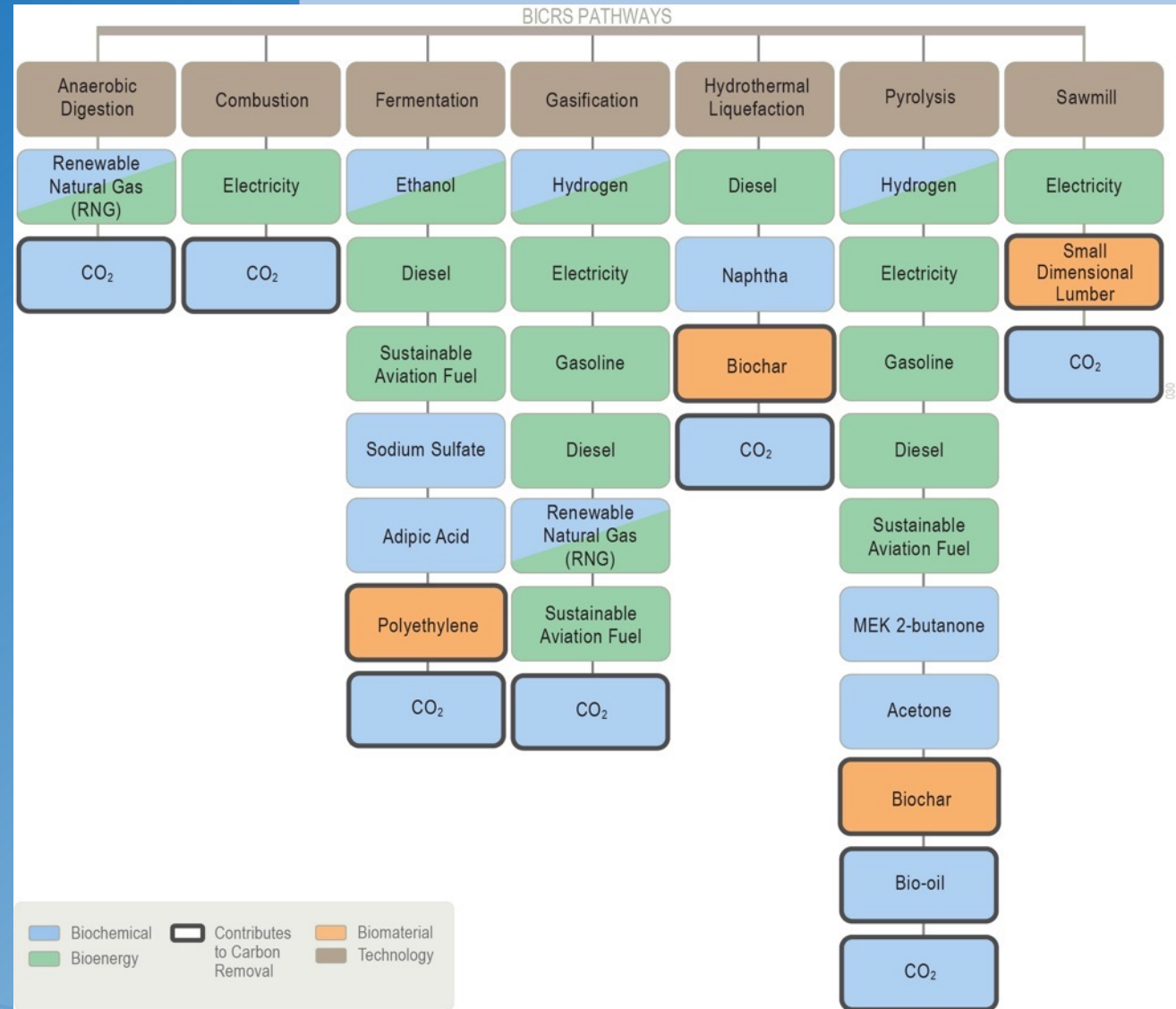
What will it cost?

- ▶ We have more CO₂ removal capacity that we need
- ▶ 'Extra' removal capacity allows each region to make choices that match local needs...
- ▶ Converting waste biomass to H₂ is a large, affordable option



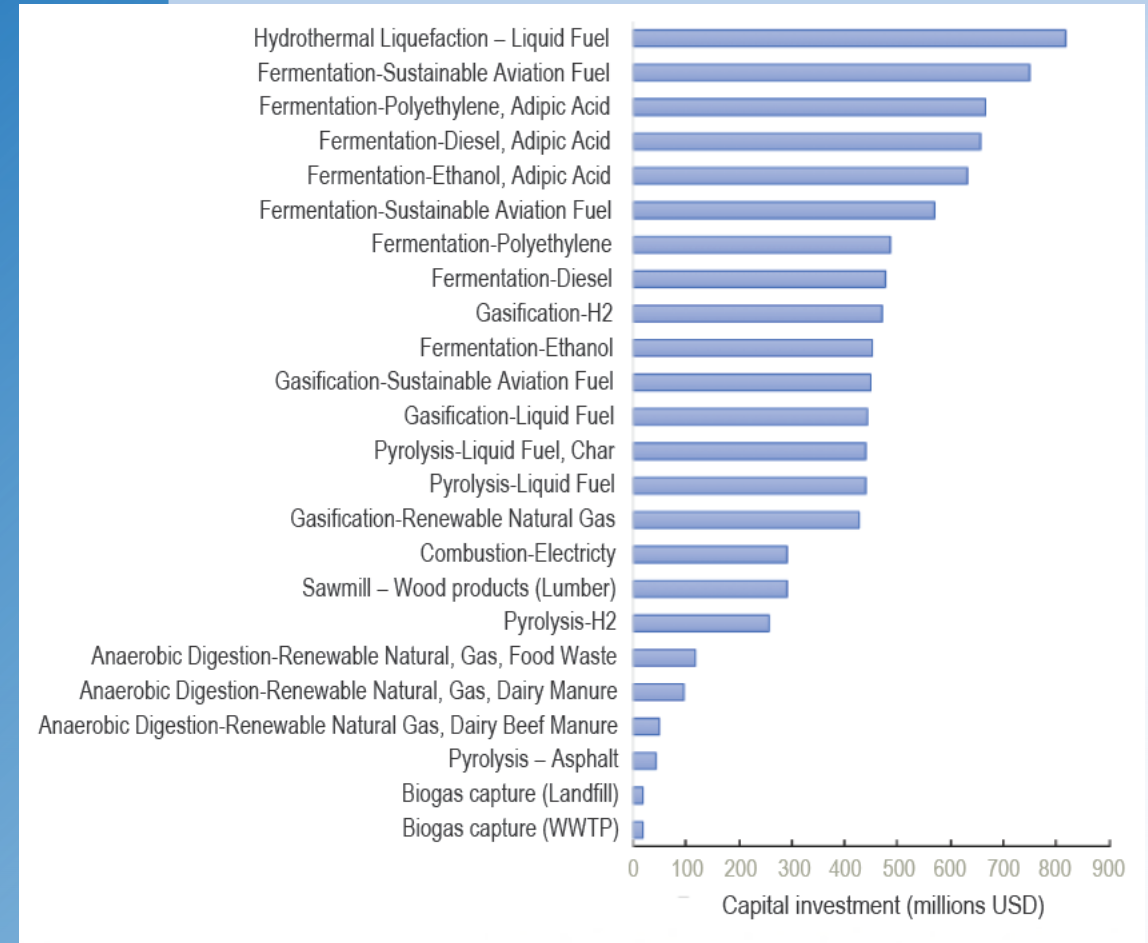
Using organic wastes, we can remove millions of tonnes of CO₂ per year

- ▶ Targeted areas with biomass (feedstock), good geologic storage, & regional co-benefits
- ▶ Avoided land where we grow food
- ▶ In-depth technical-economic analysis for 27 mature biomass conversion pathways
- ▶ Would require ~300 new biorefineries across the USA



Carbon capture from biomass is a key part of solution to meet US climate goals

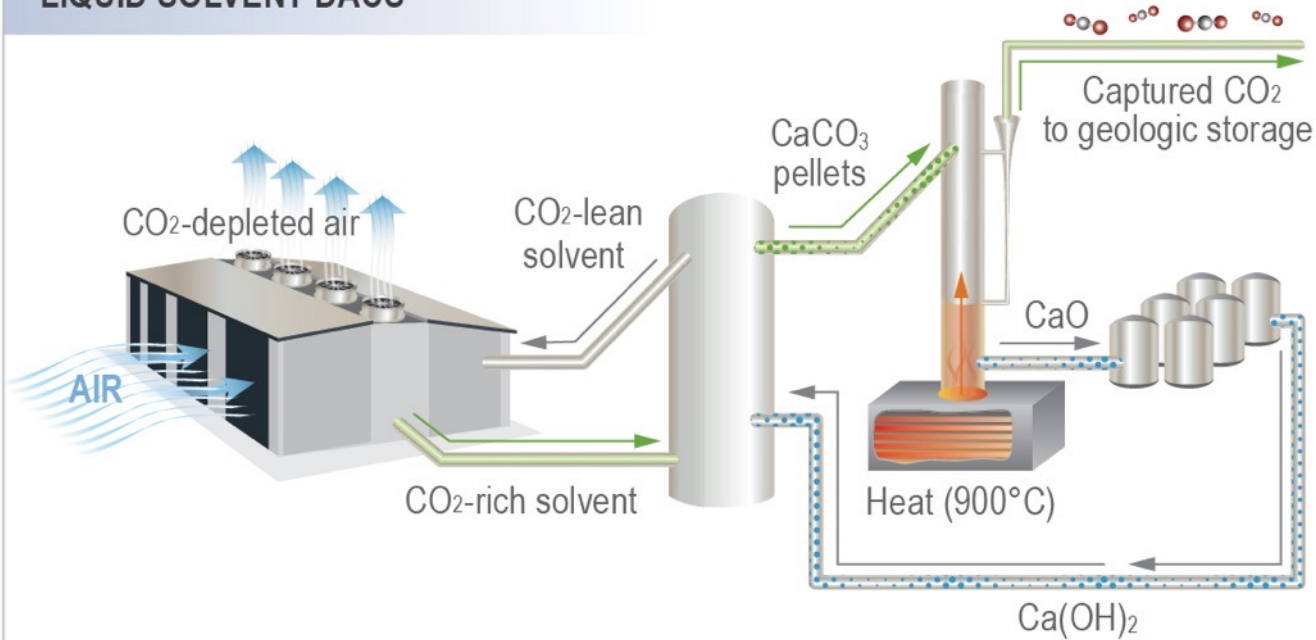
- ▶ 800 million tonnes of CO₂ removal per year from 300+ biorefineries
- ▶ 34 million tonnes of hydrogen production, 150 TWh of electricity production, 1.4 million tonnes biochar production
- ▶ cost < \$100 per tonne



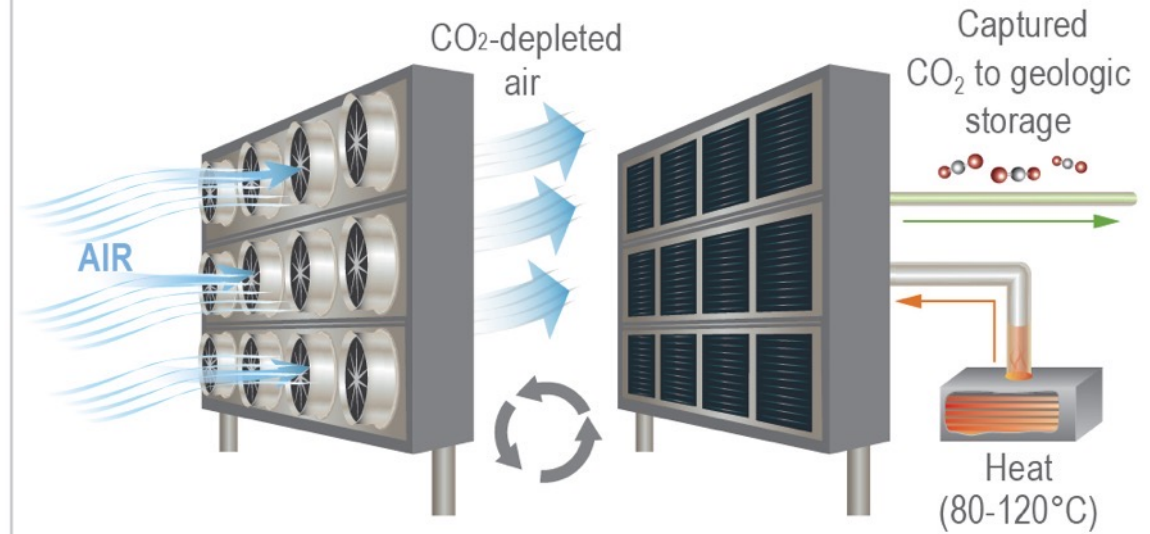
- ▶ **BiCRS capital investment costs are significant**

Direct air capture uses engineered materials and systems to remove CO₂ from the atmosphere

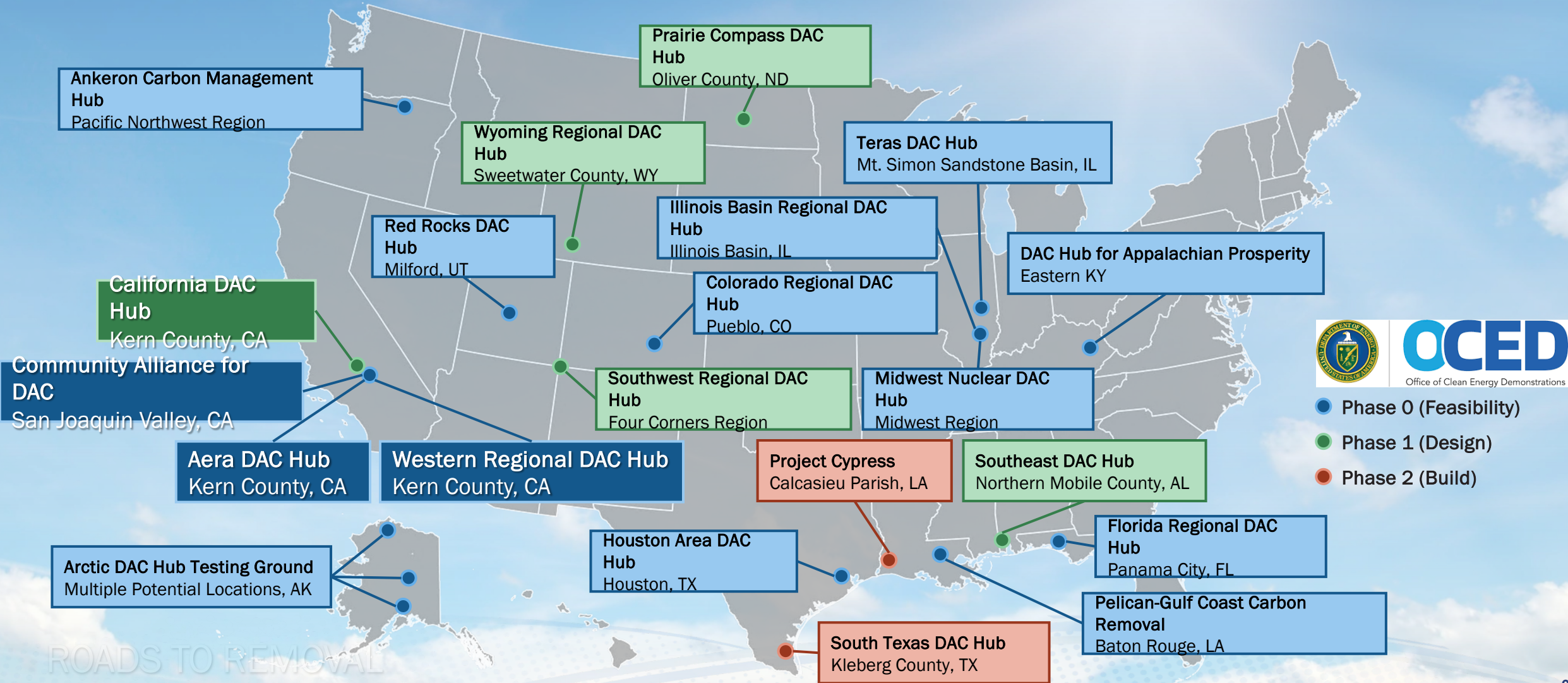
LIQUID SOLVENT DACS



SOLID ADSORBENT DACS

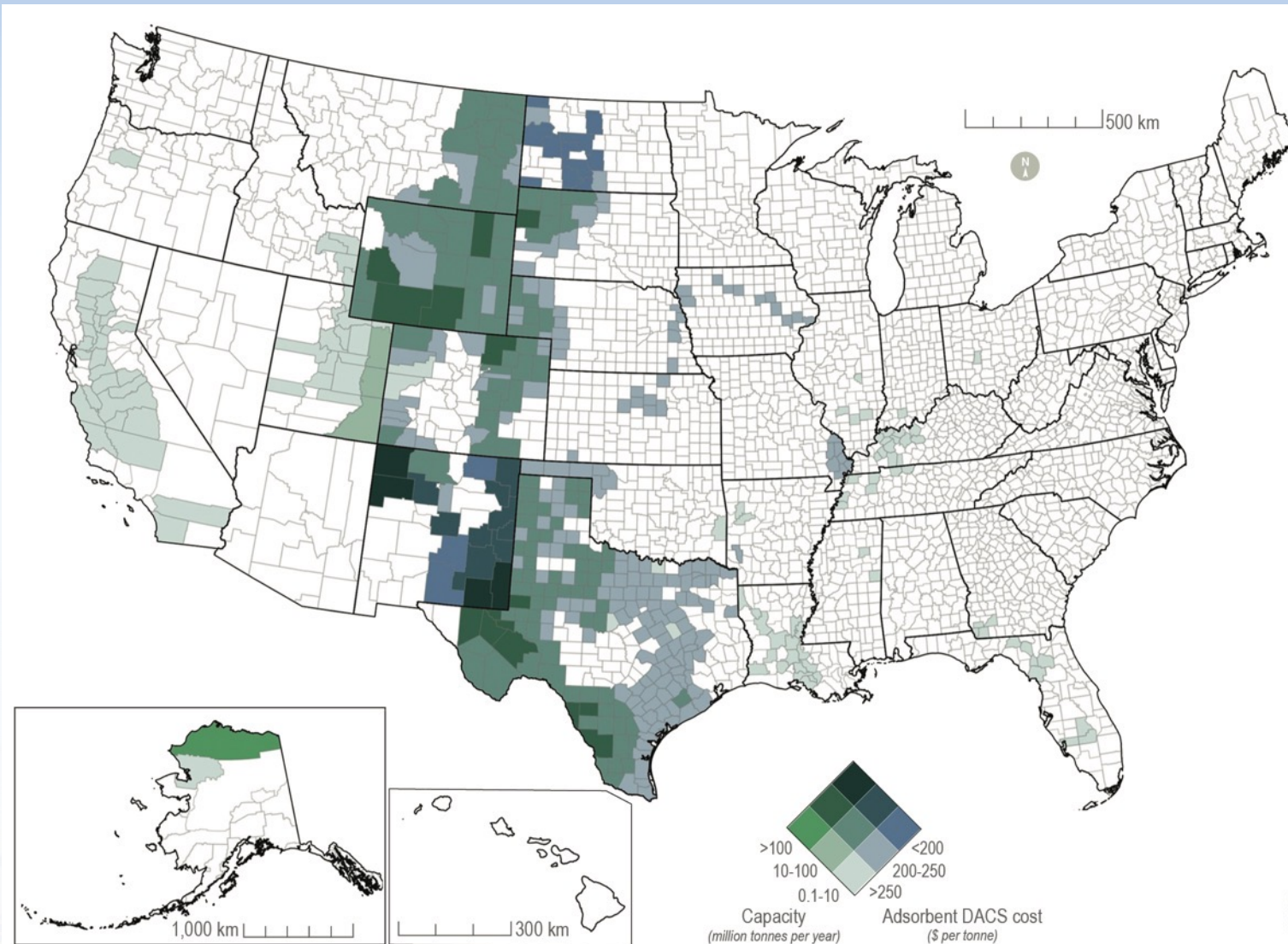


The USA has invested in many DAC demonstration projects

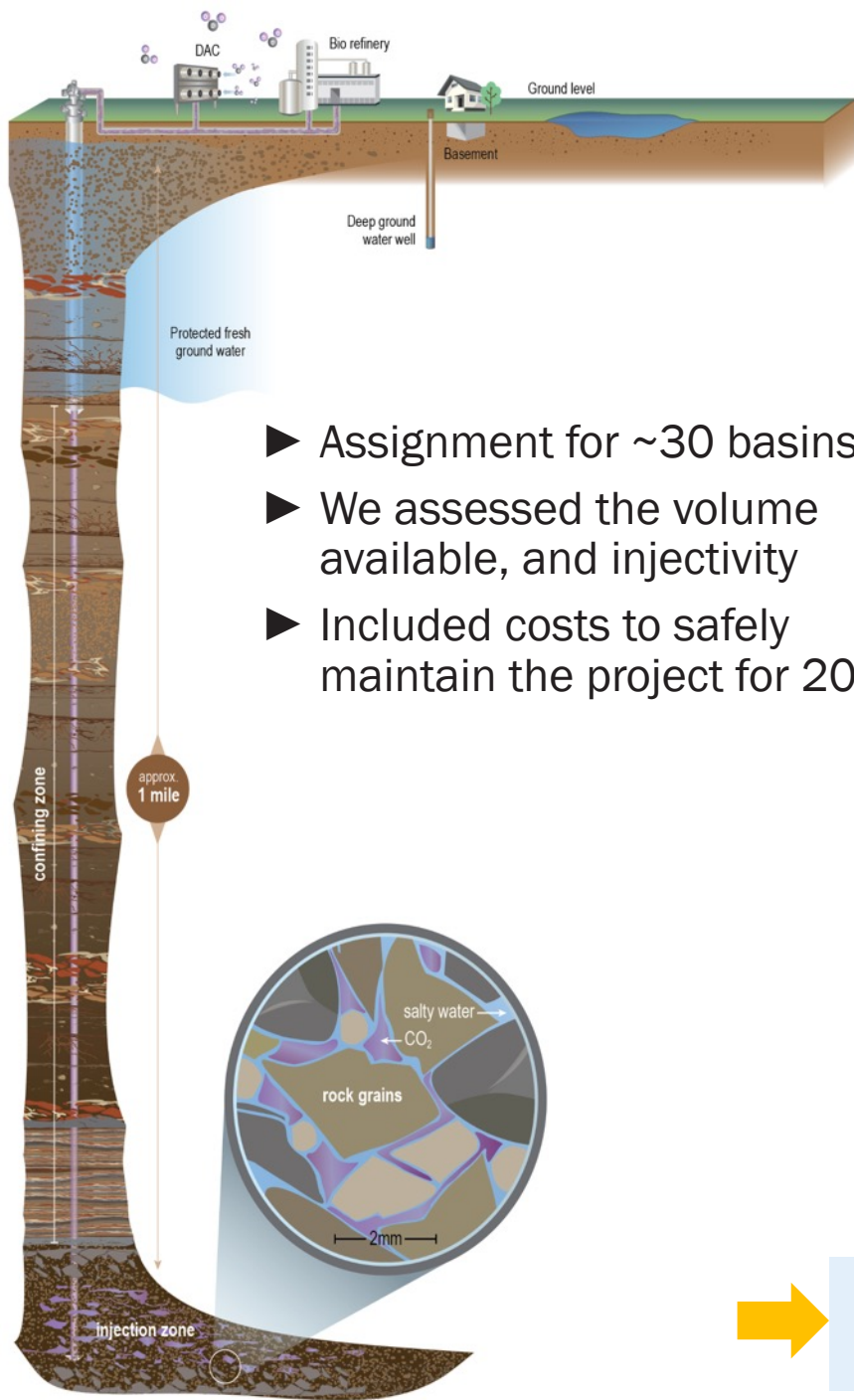


- Phase 0 (Feasibility)
- Phase 1 (Design)
- Phase 2 (Build)

Direct air capture (DAC): Best land is near regions of high energy and CO₂ storage

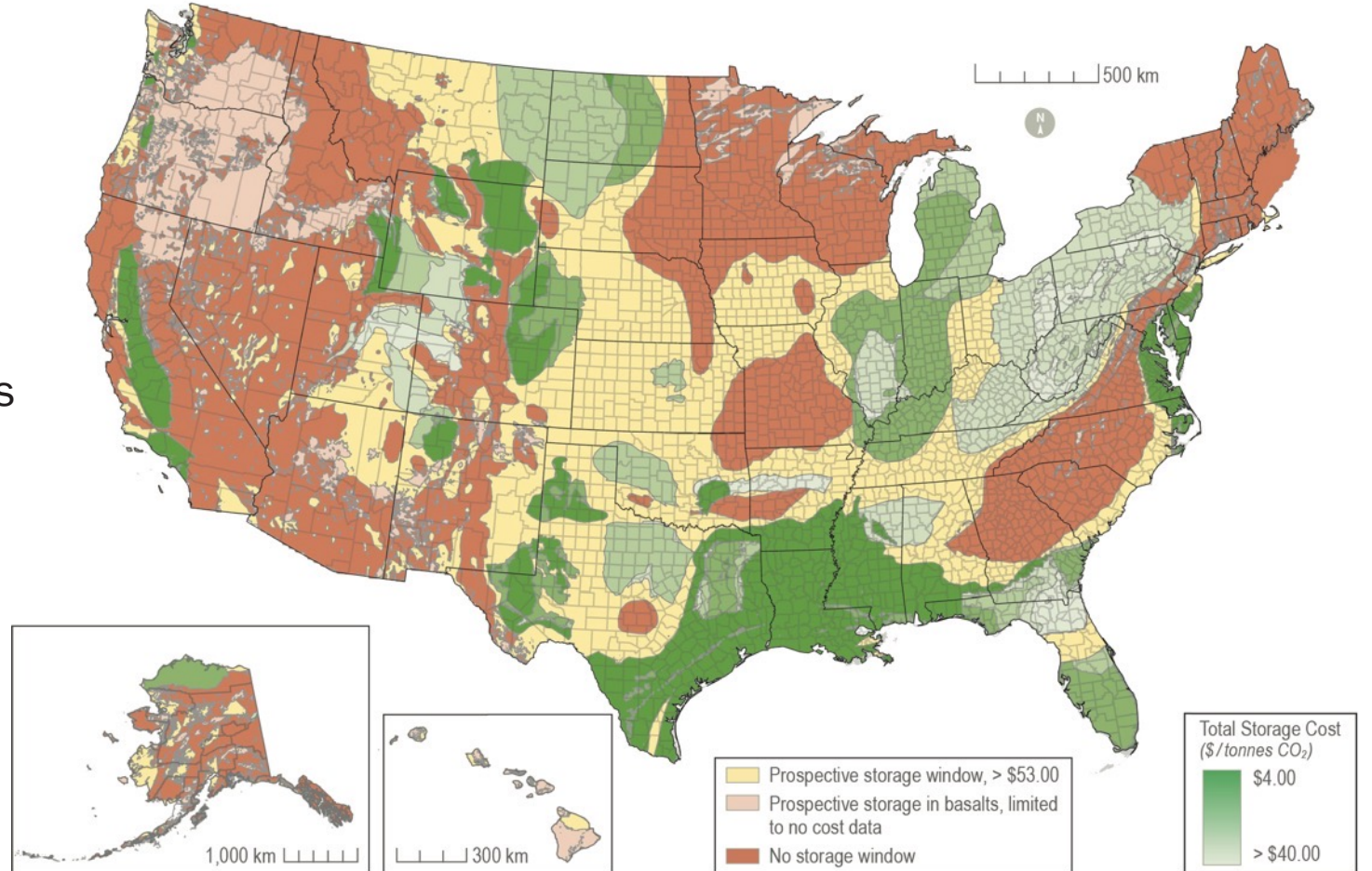


- ▶ DAC can remove over 9 billion tonnes of CO₂ per year, at \$200 - \$250/tonne CO₂.
- ▶ West Texas, Upper and Lower Rocky Mountains, and parts of the Upper and Lower Midwest have the largest potential for DACS deployment with renewable energy
- ▶ Priority regions for DACS have nearby geologic storage and land for renewable energy



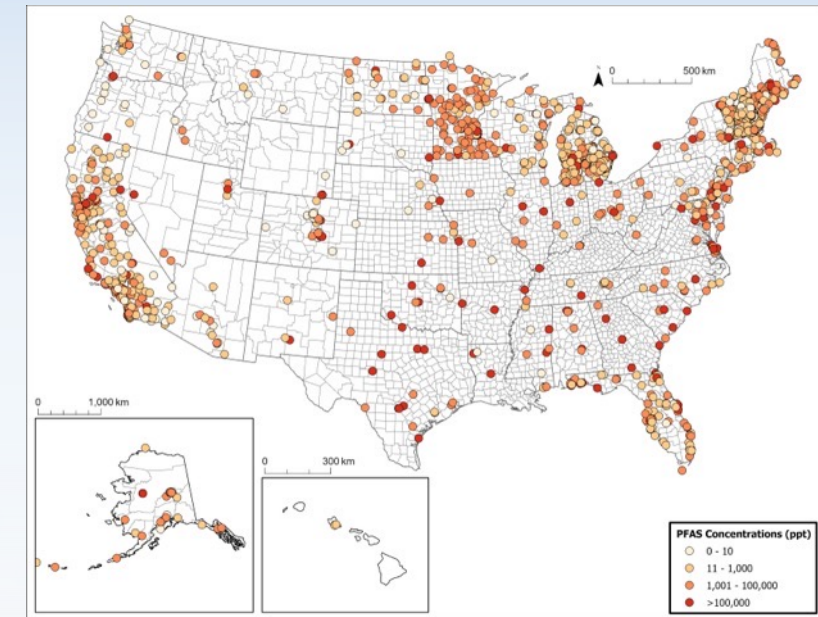
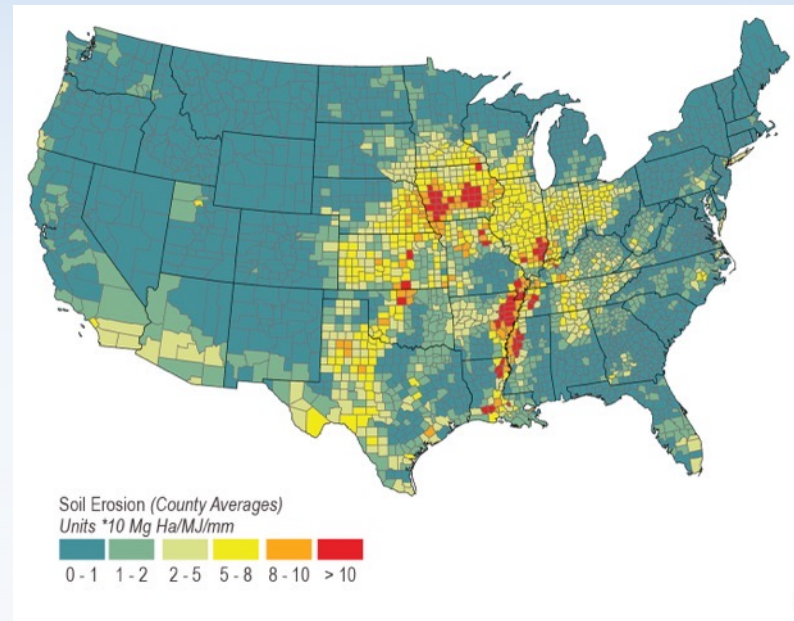
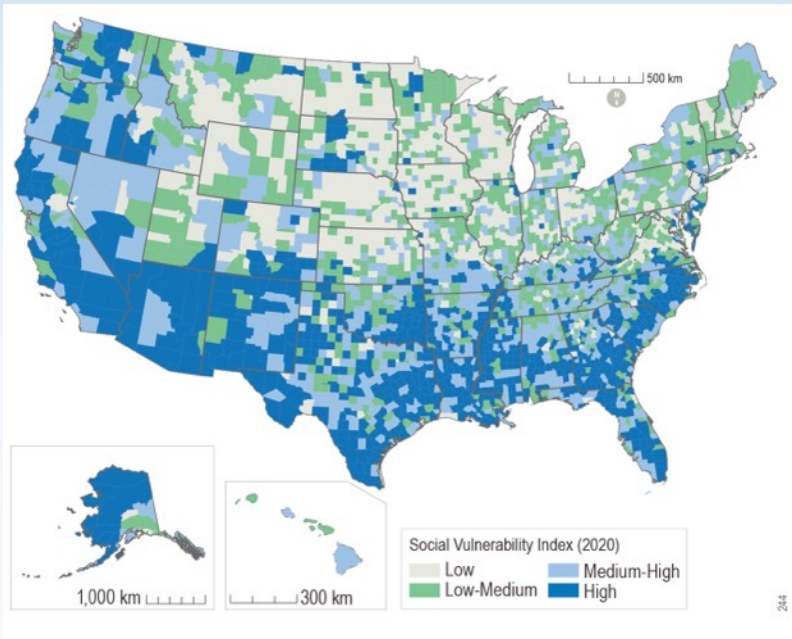
- ▶ Assignment for ~30 basins.
- ▶ We assessed the volume available, and injectivity
- ▶ Included costs to safely maintain the project for 20 yrs

We have plenty of reliable geologic storage



More than half the land area in the United States has potential for safe, affordable (<\$40/tonne) CO₂ geologic storage

EEEJ Analysis: where can CO₂ removal approaches benefit the environment, communities, or both?

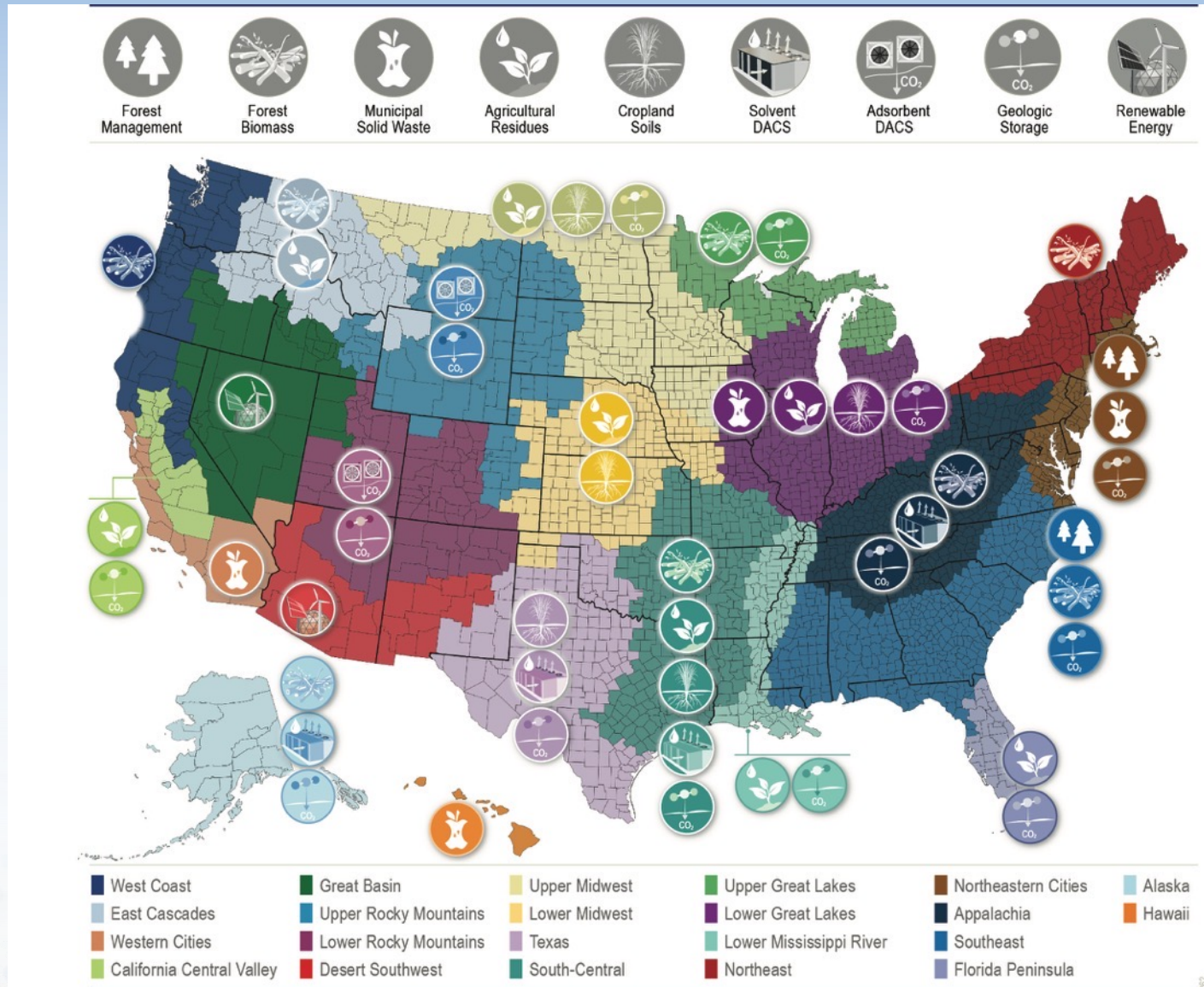


Social vulnerability index

Soil erosion

PFAS concentrations

Every US Region Has a Story and an Opportunity



THANKS

roads2removal.org



CARBON
THE INITIATIVE

