

Founding members of the Environment Business Australia Bio-CCS group

MBD Energy

Andrew Lawson, Managing Director

Email - andrew.lawson@mbdenergy.com

Phone - 03 9415 8711

Website - www.mbdenergy.com

Using algae to synthesise CO₂ captured from coal-fired power plants (or other large emitters) significantly reduces carbon pollution while helping with fuel security and providing a healthy animal fodder that early trials demonstrate reduces methane output in cattle. Algal oil can be used to create plastics or biodiesel, animal meal to replace soy imports, and a fertilizer to rebuild both structure and mineral content of soils. Technology developed at James Cook University in Queensland.

MBD has signed agreements with three of Australia's largest emitters (Loy Yang Power, Eraring Energy and Tarong Energy) and Anna Bligh, Premier of Queensland, launched the MBD Algal Research and Development facility on 20 November 2009. This R&D facility is the largest of its kind in the world.

- Estimated capture of CO₂ per annum – 15 million tonnes (5 million per project) in early stage commercial development, increasing as new projects come on line and scale up. India and China showing significant interest.

Ignite Energy Resources/LawrieCo

Dr John White & Adrian Lawrie

Email - john.white@igniteer.com

Phone - 03 8600 7000

Websites – www.igniteer.com & www.lawrieco.com.au

Using Gippsland brown coal deposits (high humic/fulvic content lignite) as the base for a soil fertiliser using the BioLogic system to rebuild soil carbon and biology levels and regenerate degraded soils, which in turn accelerates plant growth and photosynthesis of carbon dioxide to increase soil carbon via plant root structures. The process increases rain infiltration and rebuilds soil structure, resilience to drought, salinity and erosion at landscape scale. The reduced need for synthetic chemical fertilisers and pesticides/fungicides reduces chemical/nutrient run-off to waterways and has food and water benefits to public health.

- Estimated drawdown of CO₂ per annum – Current drawdown is approximately 7 million tonnes p.a. in Australia. The potential to sequester 75 million tonnes p.a. in Australia is based on just 20% of cropping land using biologic farming methods

Soil Carbon

Tony Lovell, Managing Director

Email - tonyl@soilcarbon.com.au

Phone - 07 5553 7900

Website – www.soilcarbon.com.au

The Soil Carbon company specialises in improvements to grazing/rangeland management that can significantly rebuild soil carbon levels in the planet's vast grasslands and intensively farmed agricultural lands. The approach reverses desertification and land degradation, supports biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, and the improvements to agricultural land productivity result in better food quality and quantity, community health improvements, strengthening rural and regional communities. By controlling stock movements grass/crop regeneration is faster, root systems grow stronger and deeper sequestering far greater levels of CO₂ through photosynthesis.

- Estimated drawdown of CO₂ per annum – Current drawdown in Australia is approximately 21 million tonnes of CO₂ sequestered. The potential is 2 tonnes CO₂ per hectare per annum, with 450 million hectares of grassland this gives an upper potential of 900 million tonnes per annum for at least 40 years. If just 10% of the Australian landmass was converted to carbon farming 90 million tonnes would be sequestered each year.

Plantstone Technology

Professor Leigh Sullivan, Southern Cross University

Email - sulfate@bigpond.net.au

Phone - 02 6628 1521

Website – www.plantstone.com.au

Plantstone carbon (also known as silica phytoliths) is a practical and proven technology developed in Australia to enhance the secure and permanent biosequestration of carbon in silica that vegetation draws from the soil.

Research is underway to demonstrate the crop cultivars capable of maximum carbon sequestration. Grassy crops such as wheat, sugarcane and bamboo offer significantly high carbon sequestration in silica phytoliths. Not only is this of interest to Australian farmers but China is particularly interested to value-add to its extensive bamboo forests - the permanent carbon storage in the fibre, design and building materials, as well as residue left to build in the soil offer China considerable carbon offset potential which has yet to be included in international negotiations for carbon reduction targets. This form of biosequestered carbon can be readily quantified at plant/hectare level and the permanence of carbon storage is >1000 years as the silica 'shield' is impervious to fire or biological breakdown.

- Estimated drawdown of CO₂ – 80 million tonnes per annum in Australia in the next 5 years and approximately 1.5 billion tonnes of CO₂ per annum globally, an amount equivalent to > 10 % of the current global increase in atmospheric CO₂.

Ocean Nourishment

John Ridley, Managing Director

Email - john.ridley@oceannourishment.com

Phone - 02 9518 6150

Website – www.oceannourishment.com

Ocean Nourishment Corporation (ONC) is at the forefront of ocean based carbon biosequestration. Plants drive biological sequestration of carbon by photosynthesis. Ocean plants (algae), despite being only 0.2% of the planet's biomass, undertake about 50% of the world's photosynthesis. ONC have developed an agricultural process that through nutrient delivery enhances plant growth in surface waters over deep ocean sites. This significantly increases the natural drawdown of carbon to the planet's largest carbon sink (the deep ocean), where carbon remains stored for an estimated 1,000 years. Also, by enhancing the base of the food chain, the process stimulates marine productivity in barren areas of the oceans and thus can play an important role in development of fisheries.

- Estimated drawdown of CO₂ – each ONC site is estimated to sequester between 5 and 8 million tonnes of CO₂ per annum and after 2-3 years of operation also contribute some 300,000 tonnes of fish. Suitable site locations are in waters greater than 1,000 m deep and typically have low plant growth due to nutrient limitation. 10 sites are currently being investigated.

Environment Business Australia

Fiona Wain, CEO

Email – eba@environmentbusiness.com.au

Phone – 02 9358 1800

Website – www.environmentbusiness.co.au

EBA is the peak body for the cleantech/low carbon and environmental goods and services sector. Globally this sector was assessed as a \$6 trillion industry in 2008 with rapid growth potential. EBA is a not-for-profit business think tank and advocacy group promoting commercial solutions to environmental challenges. EBA and its members have consistently pushed for far-reaching policies to help shape the marketplace for clean and efficient technologies and smart systems and ideas.