

SOMAX



Resource Recovery via Hydrothermal Carbonization at the Borough of Phoenixville, PA Wastewater Treatment Plant

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

WATER RESOURCE RECOVERY

PRIZE



WATER SECURITY
GRAND CHALLENGE
Abundance Through Innovation

Problem:

- Borough is experiencing **6.5%/year** increases in biosolids disposal costs.
- Impending land application regulations will make the current disposal method more difficult and even more costly
- The WWTP is largest consumer of energy in the Borough of Phoenixville

Goal:

- Cover 100% of the WWTP energy demand by using Borough's own organic waste
- Offset largest energy consumer in an effort to meet the Borough's 2035 100% clean and renewable energy goal



Solution:

Hydrothermal Carbonization + Gasification

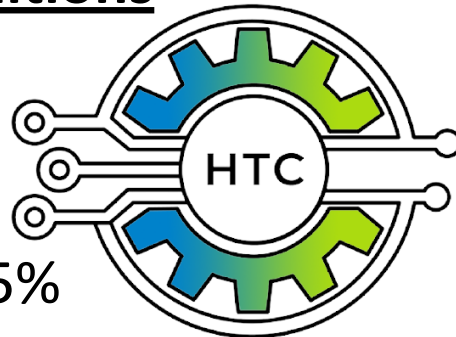
HTC Process Conditions

Temperature: 360 – 430°F

Pressure: 290 – 360 psi

Reaction time: 3 hours

Moisture Content: 70% – 85%



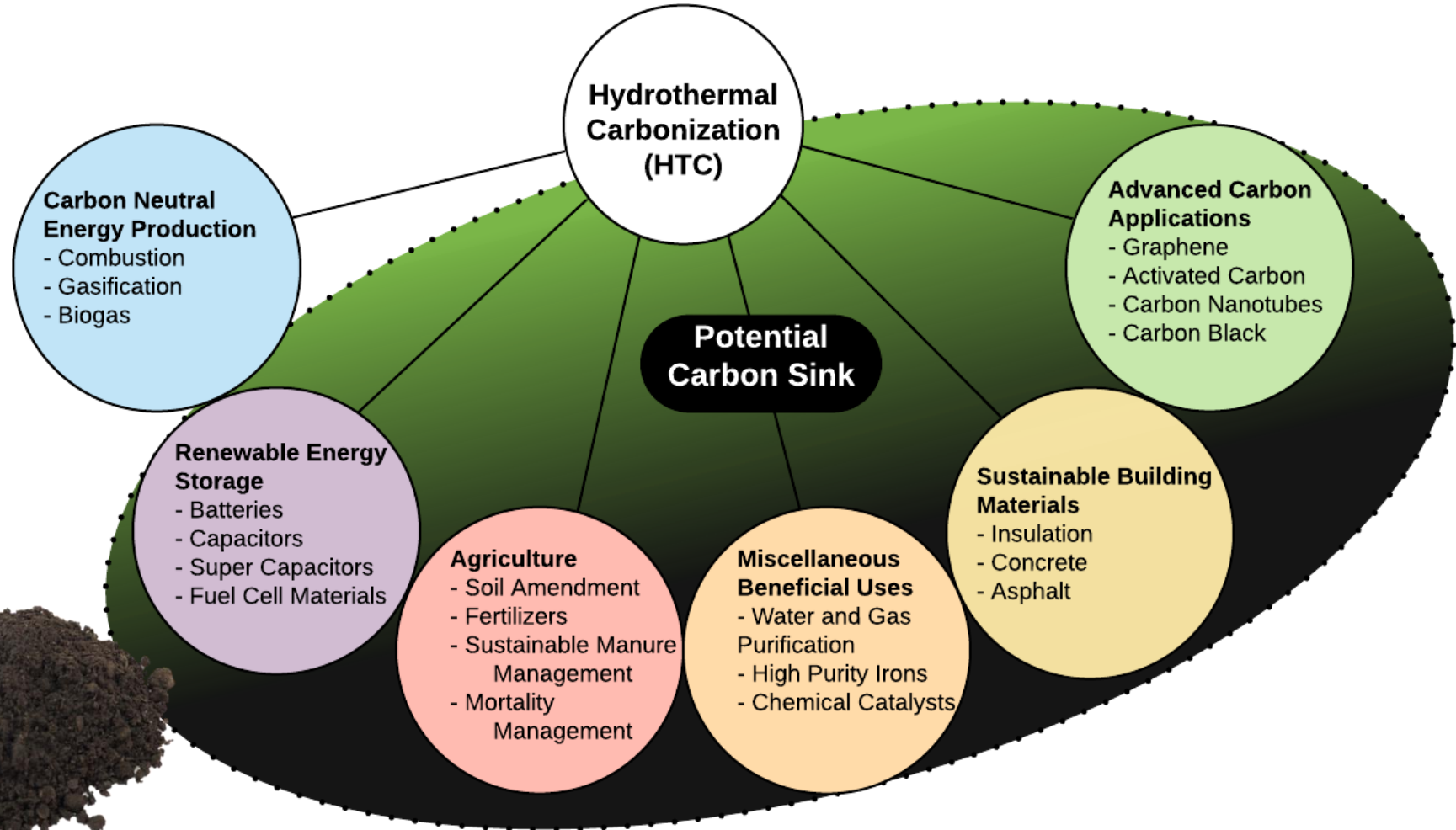
HTC Project Benefits:

- Energy efficient organic waste conversion
- Processes wet feedstocks
- High dewaterability leads to low energy demand needed drying
 - >50% total solids out of dewatering device
- High volume solids processing with small footprint
- High **Carbon** recovery efficiency and utilization

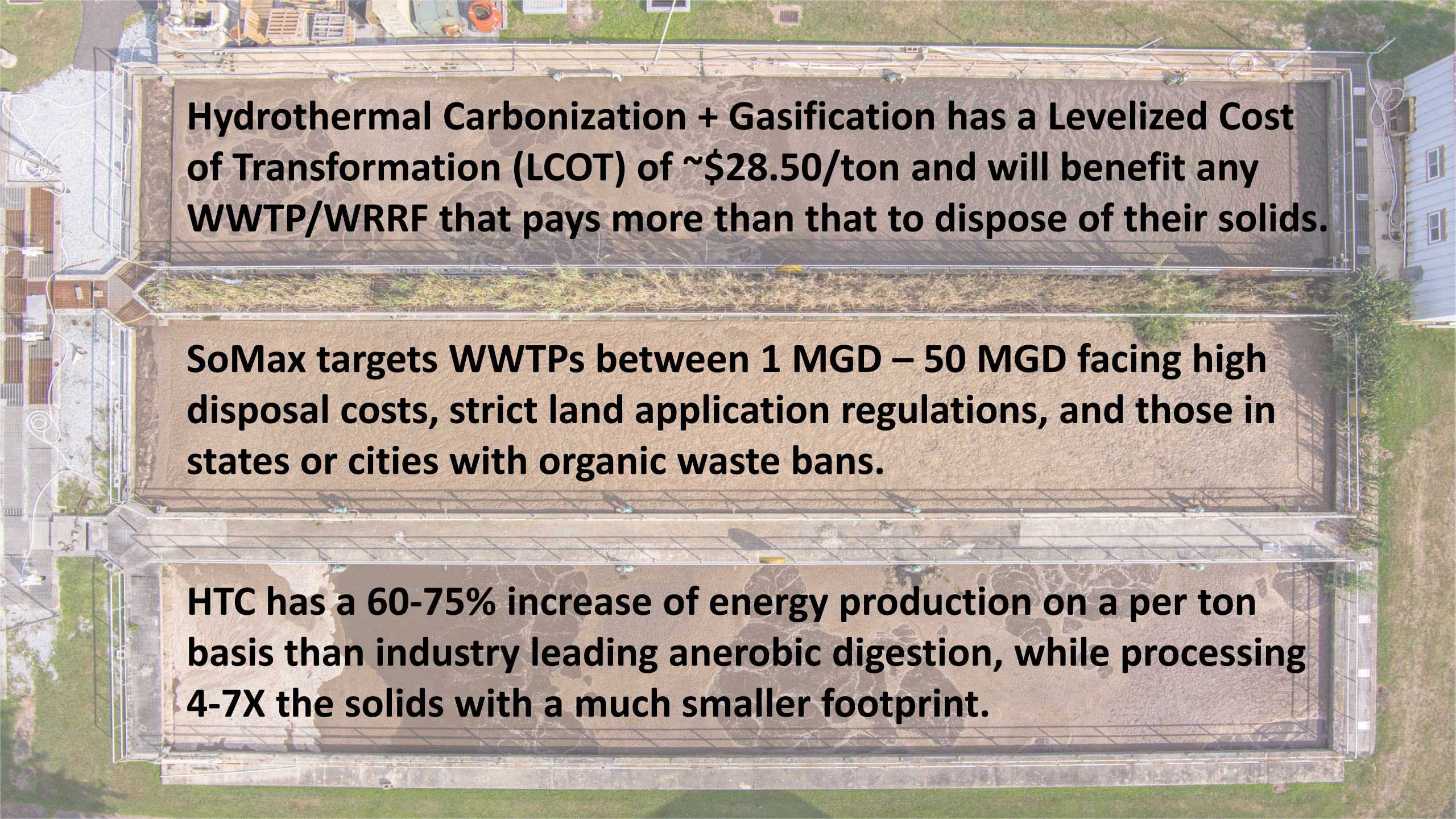
**Most carbon efficient biomass conversion process
Lowest GHG emissions of any biomass conversion process**

Carbon is the resource of focus. Initial tests show the carbon efficiency of the Borough's HTC project to be between 80%-85%, while increasing the mixed biosolids and food waste feedstock's energy density by over 42%.

At full capacity, the HTC project will cover over 150% of the WWTP energy demand.



Beyond solid fuel use, hydrochar can be used for a litany of other applications.

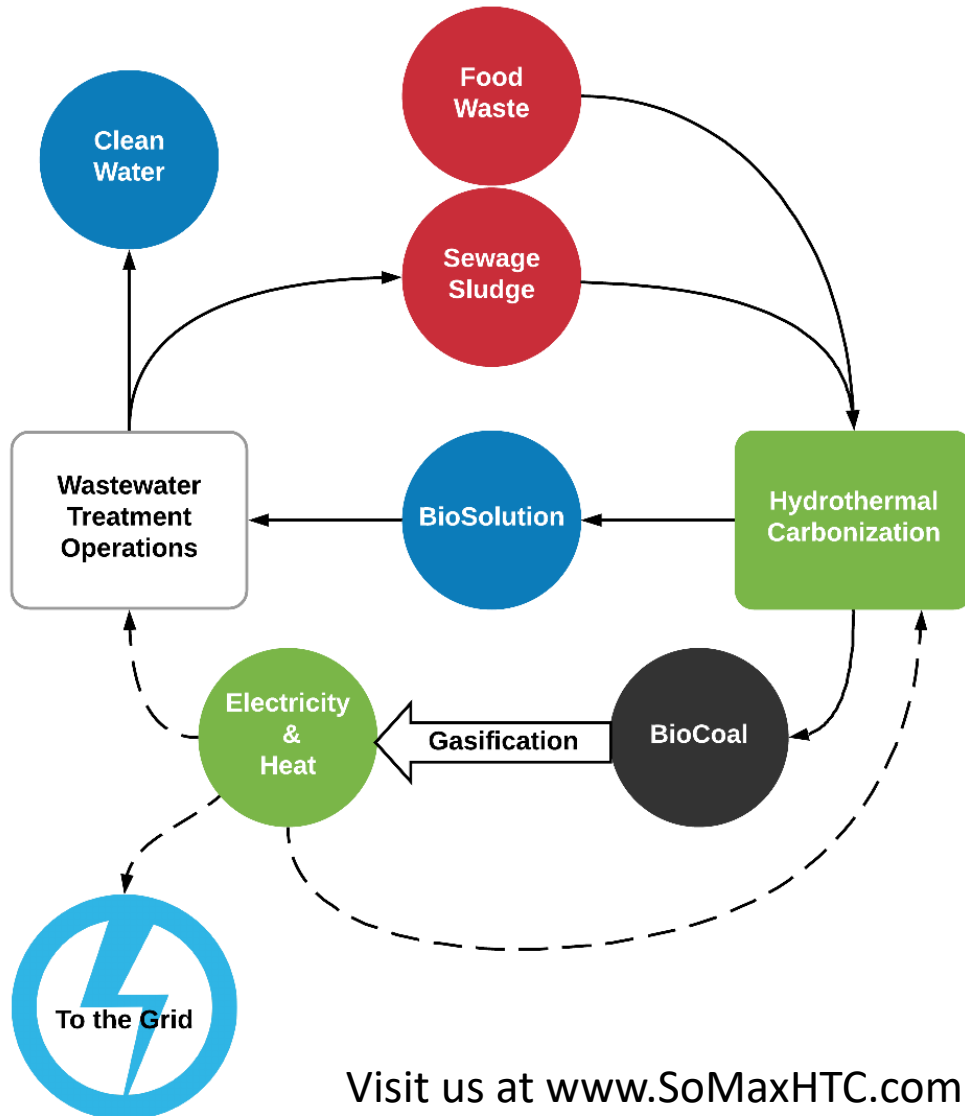


Hydrothermal Carbonization + Gasification has a Levelized Cost of Transformation (LCOT) of ~\$28.50/ton and will benefit any WWTP/WRRF that pays more than that to dispose of their solids.

SoMax targets WWTPs between 1 MGD – 50 MGD facing high disposal costs, strict land application regulations, and those in states or cities with organic waste bans.

HTC has a 60-75% increase of energy production on a per ton basis than industry leading anaerobic digestion, while processing 4-7X the solids with a much smaller footprint.

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Visit us at www.SoMaxHTC.com

- **Efficient Energy Recovery**
 - Generates 10X more electrical energy than it consumes
 - Creates 153% of electrical demand of WWTP operations
 - Generates over 100% of thermal demand of HTC process
- **Industry Leading Efficiencies**
 - Carbon Efficiency up to 90%
 - A 60-75% increase of energy recovery and utilization than industry leading anaerobic digestion
 - Lowest GHG emissions of any biomass conversion process
- **Barrier Breaking Innovations**
 - Increases solids handling capacity by 4-7X without increasing plant footprint
 - Polymer-free dewatering of BioCoal over 50% TS
 - New pathways for nutrient recovery
- **Exceptional Technological Advantages**
 - Pathogen free, sanitary products
 - Antibiotic and pharmaceuticals destruction
 - Elimination of PFAS/PFOAS (Forever Chemicals)