# Methodology Transition Plan for Biochar Edition 2025

2025-04-03

In 2025, Puro.earth will be launching Edition 2025 of its biochar methodology. This has implications for Production Facilities already certified, Production Facilities currently registered and preparing for the first Audit, as well as for future Production Facilities in earlier stages of development.

The purpose of this document is to explain the transition plan that Puro.earth will deploy over the coming months, to ultimately phase out the Edition 2022 and operate under Edition 2025. The transition plan is part of the public consultation held in April 2025.

## **Timeline**

#### Period of Public consultation

Start: April 3<sup>rd</sup>
 End: April 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Date of Approval

- Date when Puro's Scientific Advisory Board approves Edition 2025
- Target: by end of May

#### Date of Publishing

- Date when final publication version is available in the <u>Document Library</u>
- o Target: by end of June

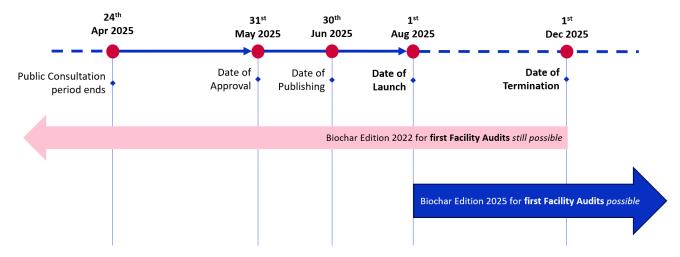
#### Date of Launch

- o Earliest date when a Facility Audit can be conducted following Biochar Edition 2025
- Target: August 1<sup>st</sup>

#### • Date of Termination

- Last date for which an Edition 2022 Facility Audit Package can be submitted by a Supplier to Puro.earth for a Facility registered prior to Date of Launch. Further conditions are detailed below.
- o Target: December 1st

Dates will be officially confirmed once the methodology is approved by our scientific <u>Advisory Board</u>. If Approval is delayed, all dates are delayed accordingly.



# Implications for Facilities at different stages of certification

## **Certified Facilities**

- <u>Definition</u>: a Facility that already passed a Facility Audit under a previous biochar methodology, and for which the 5-year crediting period has not expired. The crediting period is visible in the <u>Puro Registry</u>, <u>under the tab Projects</u>.
- Implication of update:
  - Normal course: The Facility can continue to operate normally, until the end of the crediting period. At the end of the crediting period, to continue being certified and issue CORCs, the Facility must go through a new Facility Audit against the latest version of the methodology i.e. Edition 2025 or whichever version is the latest published at that point in time. Hence, CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Suppliers that manage Certified Facilities are recommended to get familiar with Edition 2025 and plan necessary changes accordingly.
  - Earlier transition: A CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Supplier can request, for a given Facility, an update of the Facility Audit to obtain compliance with Edition 2025. This update of the Facility Audit will require the submission of an Audit Package in line with Edition 2025, and possibly adaption to operations, monitoring and reporting of the Facility. Verifications for the update of the Facility Audit will be conducted at the next Output Audit, with a modified scope of verification. The update will not affect the on-going crediting period dates.

## Production Facilities registered prior to Date of Launch and still preparing for the first Facility Audit

- <u>Definition</u>: a Facility that has been registered in the Puro Registry prior to the *Date of Launch*, but has not yet passed a Facility Audit.
- Implication of update:
  - Such Facilities are encouraged to be certified against Edition 2025, but are allowed to attempt certification against Edition 2022 within time limits specified below.
    Puro.earth believes that it is in the interest of biochar suppliers to be certified against Edition 2025 for various reasons, including the durability claim extended to several centuries (CORC200+). However, Puro.earth also understands that CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Suppliers that have already invested time and efforts in preparing for Audit shall be allowed to be certified against Edition 2022.
  - Facility Audit for Edition 2025: CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Suppliers who want to have their Facility certified against Edition 2025, even prior to the *Termination Date* of Edition 2022, must notify Puro.earth. Puro.earth will make the necessary changes in the Facility's registration details and audit preparation material.
  - Facility Audit for Edition 2022: Such Facilities have until the *Termination Date* to submit a
    complete Audit Package. The date of submission of the Audit Package is the point of reference.
    Puro will then conduct its eligibility review of the Audit Package.
    - If Puro deems that the Audit Package is complete and sufficient for audit, the Facility Audit procedures following Edition 2022 will be started.
    - If Puro deems that the Audit Package is incomplete or insufficient for audit, but requires only a minor revision, the CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Suppliers will have an opportunity to address the identified issues within 14 days and submit once new/revised documentation for a review. If the Audit Package is ultimately deemed incomplete or insufficient for audit,



the Facility will be required to prepare for Audit following Edition 2025. Puro.earth will strictly follow these time limits.

# Production Facilities registered after the Date of Launch

- <u>Definition</u>: a Facility that has been registered in the Puro Registry on or after the *Date of Launch*.
- Implication of update:

  Any Facility registered after the *Date of Launch* must be certified against Edition 2025 and will be provided with the necessary material to prepare accordingly (i.e. Audit Package).

# Remarks for Preliminary Assessment

- Any Production Facility that has passed a Preliminary Assessment and is currently listed as a Future
  Facility on Puro's website will keep its listing. It is explicit in the Public Summary of the Assessment that
  it was conducted against *Biochar Edition 2022*. Although many elements remain similar the Preliminary
  Assessment does not apply for *Biochar Edition 2025*.
- CO<sub>2</sub> Removal Suppliers that have purchased a Preliminary Assessment, but have not yet submitted their documents for evaluation, keep their right to be evaluated whenever ready. Puro.earth will conduct its evaluation in a manner that reflects any new rules from Edition 2025 and highlight any major differences with Edition 2022.