



Final Audit Report

Audited Body	
Puro.earth Project Proponent	The Next 150 SA
Name of Contact for Puro.earth Project Proponent	Patrick Pineda
Production Facility Operator	The Next 150 SA
Name of Contact for Production Facility Operator	Patrick Pineda
Production Facility name	General Biochar Systems - Irapuato
Production Facility ID	644638
Production Facility Location	Irapuato, Mexico

Audit Description	
Type of Audit	Production Facility Audit and Output Audit
Number of CORCs under Audit	108
Tonnes of dry biochar under Audit	108.5
CORC conversion factor under Audit	1.001 tCO ₂ e per tonne dry biochar
Reporting Period Covered by Audit	21 September 2023 to 20 February 2024
Objective of Audit Engagement	Provide assurance opinion against requirements of Puro.earth Rules v3.1
Date of Auditor Engagement	28 July 2024
Date of Audit Report Submission	20 September 2024

Audit Outcomes	
Production Facility Eligibility	Eligible
Number of eligible CORCs	108
Tonnes of eligible dry biochar	108.5
CORC conversion factor	1.001 tCO ₂ e per tonne dry biochar
Calculation Method	Biochar Methodology

Auditing Body	
Auditor	EnergyLink Services Pty Ltd
Lead Auditor	Rodrigo Pardo Patron
Additional Audit Personnel	Thais Monteiro Voll
Peer Reviewer	Katherine Simmons

This document details the nature and scope of the services provided by a member of EnergyLink Services in respect of the eligibility of the CO₂ Removal Supplier Production Facility under the requirements of Biochar Methodology v3.0 (Edition 2022) and the Puro Standard General Rules v 3.1.

This document is issued to Puro.earth detailing audit procedures conducted and the auditor's opinion in relation to the eligibility of the Production Facility. It should not be used for any other purpose.

Because of the inherent limitations in any internal control structure, it is possible that fraud, error, or non-compliance with laws and rules may occur and not be detected. Further, the audit was not designed to detect all weakness or errors in internal controls so far as they relate to the requirements set out above as the audit has not been performed continuously throughout the period and the procedures performed on the relevant internal controls were on a test basis. Any projection of the evaluation of control procedures to future periods is subject to the risk that the procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with them may deteriorate.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Copies of relevant documentation are available on the Puro.earth website: puro.earth

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20240920 Audit Final Report - The Next 150 Facility and Output 2024 vF.0	20 September 2024	vF.0	Rodrigo Pardo Patron	Katherine Simmons

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Abbreviation	Description
'H'	Hydrogen
'O'	Oxygen
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
CORC	CO ₂ Removal Certificate
C _{org}	Organic Carbon
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment
OC	Overcalculation
UC	Undercalculation
The Puro Rules	the Puro Standard General Rules v3.1
The New Puro Rules	the Puro Standard General Rules v4.0 (Edition 2024)
The Biochar Methodology	Edition 2022 v3

PART A: Auditor's Report

To: Puro.earth

Dear Sir / Madam,

EnergyLink Services Pty Ltd (EnergyLink Services) were engaged to perform a reasonable assurance audit of General Biochar Systems - Irapuato's CO₂ Removal calculation for the reporting period covered by the audit, from 21 September 2023 to 20 February 2024, against the eligibility requirements of 'the Puro Standard General Rules 3.1' (hereafter referred to as "the Puro Rules").

Details of Audited Body

Puro.earth Project Proponent	The Next 150 SA
Production Facility Operator	The Next 150 SA GSRN: 643002406801001296
Production Facility name	General Biochar Systems - Irapuato
Production Facility ID	644638
Production Facility location	Irapuato, Mexico

Responsibility of the Audited Body's Management

The management of the audited body (that is The Next 150 SA) is responsible for the application of the requirements of 'Biochar Methodology of the Puro Rules Edition 2022 v3' (hereafter referred to as "the Biochar Methodology") in quantifying CO₂ Removal Certificates (CORCs) from the production of biochar, which is reflected in the proof provided to EnergyLink Services.

The management of the audited body is responsible for preparation and presentation of the evidence in accordance with Section 5 the Biochar Methodology. This responsibility includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and presentation of proofs that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Our independence and quality control

EnergyLink Services have complied with the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements, which include independence and other requirements founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence, due care, confidentiality, and professional behaviour. These include all the requirements defined in the *Fortum – Supplier Code of Conduct*¹.

Furthermore, EnergyLink Services maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements, in accordance with *ISQC 1 Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information*.

¹ Fortum (2020), Fortum – Supplier Code of Conduct, available at: www.fortum.com/about-us/contact-us/suppliers/code-of-conduct

Our responsibility

EnergyLink Services' responsibility is to express an opinion on the audited body's quantification of CORCs and compliance with the *Puro Rules* based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained.

We have conducted a reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with the *Puro Rules* and relevant international standards, as listed below:

- International Standards on Assurance Engagements ISAE 3000 Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information.
- ISQC 1 Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagement.

A reasonable assurance engagement in accordance with relevant international standards involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Production Facility process controls and quantification of CORCs in accordance with the *Puro Rules*. The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depend on the assurance practitioner's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we considered internal controls relevant to the audited body's preparation of proofs. We believe that the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our assurance conclusion.

Summary of procedures undertaken

The procedures we conducted in our reasonable assurance engagement included:

- reviewing evidence provided by the audited body;
- assessing the audited body against eligibility criteria;
- conducting interviews and a physical site visit to validate the evidence provided;
- analysing procedures that the audited body used to gather data;
- testing of calculations that the audited body performed; and
- identifying and testing assumptions supporting the calculations.

Use of our reasonable assurance engagement report

This audit report has been prepared for use by the audited body and Puro.earth for the sole purpose of reporting on the audited body's quantification of CORCs and compliance with the *Puro Rules*. Accordingly, EnergyLink Services expressly disclaim and do not accept any responsibility or liability to any party other than Puro.earth and the audited body for any consequences of reliance on this report for any purpose.

Inherent limitations

There are inherent limitations in performing assurance audits - for example, assurance engagements are based on selective testing of the information being examined - and because of this, it is possible that fraud, error, or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. An assurance engagement is not designed to detect all misstatements, as an assurance engagement is not performed continuously throughout the period that is the subject of the engagement, and the procedures performed are based on a test basis. The conclusion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Additionally, non-financial data may be subject to more inherent limitations than financial data, given both its nature and the methods used for determining, calculating, and sampling or estimating such data.

Recommendations

During the audit process, the auditor issued three (3) recommendations to be implemented by the next audit, and one (1) suggestion for improvement, that may be implemented by the audited body.

Recommendation 1: Record keeping and quality assurance

Finding A: Reconciliation of reports

The Next 150 SA implemented a data management system to generate reports for each batch of biochar produced. These reports include detailed information on each batch, such as the tons of biomass used, biochar produced, bio-oil produced, LPG consumption, and electricity usage. Additionally, The Next 150 SA prepared delivery reports that provide the total amount of dry biochar delivered. The auditor noted that the delivery reports sometimes aggregate data from multiple batches, making it somewhat challenging to reconcile the data between the “general batch report” and the “delivery reports”.

Finding B: Emissions Factors

In the “general batch reports” referenced in *Finding A: Reconciliation of reports*, the emissions factors used for each emissions source are listed, and the total emissions related to the full life cycle of the biochar are calculated. Some of these factors are not obtained directly from the emissions factors database but are bespoke emissions factors based on database values and internal assumptions. For example, the “Internal Movements with LPG” considers an internal emissions factor (“tCO₂e/movements”) that include LPG emissions calculated from the database but adjusted with internal assumptions and records. For better traceability and consistency across documents, the auditor issued the following recommendation.

Recommendation

The auditor recommends that The Next 150 SA augment its record keeping procedures to ensure that the batch reports and the delivery reports reconcile and ensure the bespoke emissions factors used in the calculations are transparent, accurate, well-documented and consistent across documents.

Recommendation 2: Measurement Accuracy

Finding A: Fuel usage

The Next 150 SA does not have an accurate meter to measure all energy sources, including diesel and LPG. Therefore, the diesel and LPG required estimations and internal assumptions to estimate the emissions per batch of biochar produced.

Finding B: Electricity consumption

The Next 150 SA does not have a dedicated electricity meter for the facility. The electricity invoice is supplied by the industrial park manager who distributes costs across tenants. The auditor noted the electricity invoice did not contain the electricity consumed by The Next 150 SA (e.g. kWh or MWh). To calculate the total electricity consumption for biochar production, The Next 150 SA measured the amperage (Amp) consumed each hour throughout the facility. This value was then multiplied by a constant voltage of 473 V to calculate the kilowatts (kW) consumed per hour (kWh).

Recommendation

The auditor recommends that The Next 150 implement appropriate metering and monitoring procedures to quantify the energy use per batch at the Production Facility, especially the electricity consumption and the emissions from the biochar production process.

Recommendation 3: Laboratory results

Finding

The Next 150 SA provided a single laboratory report for the entire reporting period. Since each batch may come from different sources or feedstocks, these variations might not be reflected in the lab result. Once The Next 150 SA has a comprehensive understanding of production, The Next 150 SA can determine the appropriate frequency for conducting laboratory tests.

Recommendation

The auditor recommends that The Next 150 SA consistently commissions laboratory tests to gauge changes in results so that the CORC calculation accurately reflects the biochar production for the reporting period.

Suggestion for Improvement 1: GHG Emissions Factors

To improve the traceability of the GHG emissions factors used in the General Batch Reports, the auditor suggests that The Next 150 SA create a spreadsheet detailing the methodology for calculating the final emission factors. This spreadsheet should outline how the database values and internal assumptions are used to derive the emissions factors included in the batch reports.

Overall Conclusion

Positive Conclusion (Production Facility and Output Audit)

Production Facility Audit

In the lead auditor's opinion, the carbon removal activity performed in the audited CO₂ Removal Supplier's Production Facility met the eligibility requirements of the Puro Standard General Rules Version 3.1.

Production Output Audit

The lead auditor is able to express a reasonable assurance opinion that, in all material respects, the quantification of **108 CO₂ Removal Certificates (CORCs)** for the reporting period 21 September 2023 to 20 February 2024 by the audited body was correct.

Table 1: Audited CORCs summary

Biochar	CORCs Under Audit	Abs. Error (CORCs)	Net Error (CORCs)	Eligible CORCs	Abs. Error Rate (%)	Net Error Rate (%)
Total	108	0	0	108	0.0%	0.0%

*OC = Overcalculation / UC = Undercalculation

Ongoing Issuance and Digital Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

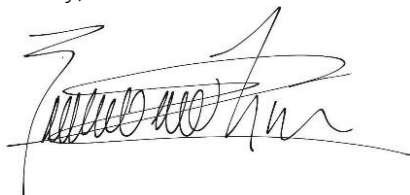
As per Appendix A of the Puro Rules, the auditor has considered the Production Facility and the internal processes, controls and systems to form an opinion over the ongoing issuance and digital monitoring, reporting and verification (dMRV). In the auditor's opinion, The Next 150 SA - General Biochar Systems Production Facility at Irapuato, Mexico has:

- Demonstrated regular industrial operations; and
- Completed a performance verification review (i.e. this audit) for the previous monitoring period with over 3 months of Output.

Nevertheless, The Next 150 SA is currently in the testing phase, working with several feedstock. In addition to corn residues, The Next 150 SA is exploring alternative biomass sources, including waste products from cultivation of berries and cherry tomatoes, as well as residues such as coconut fibre, sugar cane, bamboo, and grass.

As such, whilst The Next 150 SA has the capability for ongoing issuance and dMRV, the auditor recommends for The Next 150 SA to undertake another Output Audit, under Puro.earth Rules v4.0 prior to be eligible for the ongoing issuance of certificates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rodrigo Pardo Patron', written over a horizontal line.

Rodrigo PARDO PATRON | Director of Engineering | Lead Auditor
EnergyLink Services Pty Ltd
20 September 2024

Part B: Detailed Findings

Audit Findings and Conclusions

Table 2 to Table 6 summarise the findings from the Production Output Audit. As part of the audit procedures, the auditor performed interviews with site representatives and a physical site visit to the Production Facility in Irapuato, Mexico. Where possible, the findings from these procedures were used to validate that the eligibility criteria under the methodology had been met, that the proofs and evidence provided by the audited body were accurate, and that the metering used to quantify the Output was appropriate and correctly calibrated.

Eligibility Assessment

Table 2: Eligibility Assessment

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm that the biochar is used in applications other than energy.	Y	<p>The auditor confirmed all the biochar produced during the audit period was shipped to the rehabilitation of a material bank. The material bank was a quarry from where rocks and material were extracted for the construction of a highway and the nearby automobile manufacturing company.</p> <p>The rehabilitation consists of several stages where the State Government is responsible to undertake the rehabilitation task, and it is estimated that approximately 6% of the total material volume will be biochar. It is intended the biochar will allow the reforestation of the material bank to allow for the creation of a recreational park for the community.</p>	N/A.
Confirm that the biochar is produced from sustainable forest or waste biomass raw materials.	Y	<p>The auditor confirmed that the biochar was produced from waste biomass raw materials. During the audit period, the feedstock consisted exclusively of corn residues. Typically, after the corn is harvested, the stems and leaves are burned in the open air, posing environmental hazards and health risks to the local community. These corn residues are classified as special handling waste and are managed by the State Government.</p> <p>The Next 150 SA are experimenting with other biomass sources, including waste products from cultivation of berries and cherry tomatoes, as well as residues such as coconut fibre, sugar cane, bamboo, and grass.</p>	N/A.

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
<p>Confirm that the producer demonstrates net-negativity with results from a LCA that shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – [A1 Biomass and A2 Transport of biomass] carbon footprint of the biomass production and supply. – [A3 Production] emissions from the biochar production process. – [A4 Transport of biochar to site] carbon footprint of the biochar end use. – [B1 Application and use] cradle to grave. 	Y	The auditor confirmed that the LCA provided by The Next 150 SA included all information on the emissions of the different stages of the biochar cradle to grave life cycle.	N/A.
<p>Confirm that the biochar production process meets requirements 1.1.4 to 1.1.6 of the Biochar Methodology, namely that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – It has considered the emissions related to the use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas). – there is no co-firing of fossil fuels and biomass in the same reaction chamber. – the pyrolysis gases are recovered or combusted. – the molar H/C_{org} ratio is less than 0.7. 	Y	<p>The auditor confirmed that although the biochar system is an auto-thermal process, in which the thermal energy required to run the process is created from the feedstock being processed, the system relied on LPG to start the process and heat the reactor to the required temperature and pressure.</p> <p>Based on the above, the auditor confirmed that the emissions related to the use of fossil fuels were considered and there is no co-firing of fossil fuels and biomass in the same reaction chamber.</p> <p>During the physical site visit, the auditor confirmed that the pyrolysis gases were recovered and combusted in the reactor for pre-heating and drying the feedstock, while the excess gases were combusted through an open-flaring system.</p> <p>The molar H/C_{org} ratio is 0.41, which is less than 0.7.</p>	N/A.

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm that measures are taken for safe handling and transport of biochar to prevent fire and dust hazards.	Y	<p>During the physical site visit, the auditor verified that biochar exiting the reactor is transported via double-walled screw conveyors, each encapsulated within a water-cooling system, where water flows between two metal cylinders.</p> <p>This process prevents moisture from being added to the biochar. At this stage, the biochar's moisture content is approximately 1.7%, with samples collected for moisture and density testing.</p> <p>The Next 150 SA then sprays water for dust suppression, keeping track of the amount sprayed. Additionally, The Next 150 SA presented Biochar Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and Operations Manuals to the auditor.</p> <p>Based on the above, the auditor confirmed that measures are taken for safe handling and transport of biochar to prevent fire and dust hazards.</p>	N/A.

Standing Data

Table 3: Record Keeping

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm that the standing data of the Production Facility and the CO ₂ Removal Supplier was collected and checked.	Y	The auditor confirmed that the standing data of the Production Facility and the CO ₂ Removal Supplier was collected and checked.	N/A.

Production Facility Assessment

Table 4: Production Facility assessment

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm the Production Facility Eligibility under the general rules of Puro Standard.	Y	The auditor confirmed that the Production Facility is eligible under the general rules of Puro Standard, and all necessary evidence had been provided.	N/A.
Confirm that the Production Facility demonstrate Environmental and Social Safeguards.	Y	The auditor confirmed that the CO ₂ Removal Supplier showed sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the Production Facility does no significant harm to the surrounding natural environmental and local communities.	N/A.
Confirm that the Production Facility demonstrate additionality, that the CO ₂ removals are a result of carbon finance, and that the project is not required by existing regulations or other obligations.	Y	The auditor confirmed that the CO ₂ Removal Supplier showed sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the project meets the requirements of Clause 1.2.3 of the Biochar Methodology.	N/A.
Confirm that the quantity of biochar produced and sold is documented via appropriate processes.	Finding	<p>The auditor confirmed during the physical site visit that an appropriate system was in place to quantify the biochar produced and sold during the reporting period.</p> <p>However, The Next 150 SA implemented a data management system to generate reports for each batch of biochar produced. These reports include detailed information on each batch, such as the tons of biomass used, biochar produced, bio-oil produced, LPG consumption, and electricity usage. Additionally, The Next 150 SA prepared delivery reports that provide the total amount of dry biochar delivered.</p> <p>The auditor noted that the delivery reports sometimes aggregate data from multiple batches, making it somewhat challenging to reconcile the data between the “general batch report” and the “delivery reports”.</p> <p>This finding has not impacted the CORCs calculation.</p>	Recommendation 1

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm that metering infrastructure is in place to determine: the production output. the energy use of the Production Facility.	Y	The auditor confirmed during the physical site visit and through additional evidence, that appropriate metering infrastructure was in place to quantify the produced biochar, and that the equipment used (onsite scale) was calibrated.	Recommendation 2
	Finding	<p>The Next 150 SA does not have an accurate meter to measure all energy sources, including diesel and LPG. Therefore, the diesel and LPG required estimations and internal assumptions to estimate the emissions per batch of biochar produced.</p> <p>Additionally, The Next 150 SA does not have a dedicated electricity meter for the facility. The electricity invoice is supplied by the industrial park manager who distributes costs across tenants. The auditor noted the electricity invoice did not contain the electricity consumed by The Next 150 SA (e.g. kWh or MWh).</p> <p>To calculate the total electricity consumption for biochar production, The Next 150 SA measured the amperage (Amp) consumed each hour throughout the facility. This value was then multiplied by a constant voltage of 473 V to calculate the kilowatts (kW) consumed per hour (kWh).</p>	
<p>Confirm the calculations used to quantify emissions from the process. These must account for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The energy created by the biochar. – The energy source used in the production process. – Cultivating and harvesting of raw materials (forest vs other biomass). – Transporting of raw materials to the Production Facility (based on distance transported and fuel used). 	Finding	<p>In the “general batch reports” referenced in <i>Finding A: Reconciliation of reports</i>, the emissions factors used for each emissions source are listed, and the total emissions related to the full life cycle of the biochar are calculated. Some of these factors are not obtained directly from the emissions factors database but are bespoke emissions factors based on database values and internal assumptions. For example, the “Internal Movements with LPG” considers an internal emissions factor (“tCO₂e/movements”) that include LPG emissions calculated from the database but adjusted with internal assumptions and records.</p> <p>For better traceability and consistency across documents, the auditor issued the following recommendation.</p> <p>Except when noted above, the auditor confirmed that the LCA provided by The Next 150 SA included all information on the emissions of the different stages of the biochar life cycle (cradle-to-grave).</p>	<p>Recommendation 1</p> <p>Suggestion for Improvement 1</p>

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm the CO ₂ Removal Supplier is able to calculate the CO ₂ Removal independently.	Y	The auditor reviewed the evidence provided by the audited body and confirmed that the CO ₂ Removal Supplier was able to calculate the CO ₂ removal independently.	N/A.

Quantification of CO₂ Removal

Table 5: Quantification of CO₂ Removal - Calculation Methodology

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm that the quantification of CO ₂ removal is calculated using the Calculation formula of CO ₂ removal.	Y	The auditor examined the CORC calculator provided by the audited body and confirmed that the formulas applied in the quantification of CO ₂ removal for biochar were in accordance with the Puro Rules.	N/A.
Confirm that the inputs to the Calculation formula of CO ₂ removal are appropriate and consistent with the evidence provided.	Finding	<p>The Next 150 SA provided a single laboratory report for the entire reporting period. Since each batch may come from different sources or feedstocks, these variations might not be reflected in the lab result. Once The Next 150 SA has a comprehensive understanding of production, The Next 150 SA can determine the appropriate frequency for conducting laboratory tests.</p> <p>Except where noted above, the auditor confirmed that the calculation formula of CO₂ removal is appropriate and consistent with the evidence provided.</p>	Recommendation 3

Verification of Proofs

Table 6: Verification of proofs and documentation

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Confirm that the standing data for the Production Facility meets the requirements of the Biochar Methodology and is consistent with other evidence.	Y	The auditor reviewed and validated the standing data provided by the audited body and confirmed this was consistent with desktop testing and the physical site visit.	N/A.
Confirm that the necessary proof and evidence documents are maintained by the Production Facility as per Section 5 of the Biochar Methodology ² .	Y	Except for the findings listed in the Recommendations section of this Audit Report, the auditor confirmed all necessary evidence has been provided as per Section 5 of the Biochar Guidelines.	N/A.

² Information in Section 5 of the Biochar Methodology includes:

- Proof of sustainability of raw material for forest and/or waste biomass.
- LCA data for biomass and biochar production.
- Justification on the soil temperature used for the calculation of the biochar sequestration.
- Proof of product quality, production volume, sales and end use of biochar.
- Proof of no double counting/C positive marketing.

Peer Reviewer Conclusion

Name of the peer reviewer	Katherine Simmons
Peer reviewer's credentials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Polymer Engineering (minoring in Chemical Engineering).• Category 1 Registered Greenhouse and Energy Auditor with the Clean Energy Regulator (Australia).• Climate Active Registered Consultant.• Integrated Management Systems Lead Auditor ISO 19011, ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45001:2018.
Peer reviewer contact details	Email: katherine.simmons@kreaconsulting.com.au Phone: +61 431 612 950
Outcome of the evaluation undertaken by the peer reviewer	I have reviewed the engagement letter, audit report and supporting work papers / source data and am satisfied that the audit has been performed in accordance with the eligibility requirements of Puro Standard General Rules Version 3.1

Appendix A: Table of Site Visit Findings

Table 7: Site visit summary table

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Check that the raw material is of eligible type and sustainably sourced.	Y	The auditor confirmed that the biochar was produced from waste biomass raw materials. During the audit period, the feedstock consisted exclusively of corn residues. The Next 150 SA are experimenting with other biomass sources, including waste products from cultivation of berries and cherry tomatoes, as well as residues such as coconut fibre, sugar cane, bamboo, and grass.	N/A.
Check that the LCA provided is consistent with observations on site.	Y	The auditor confirmed LCA provided was an accurate representation of the Production Facility and used appropriate assumptions where necessary.	N/A.
Confirm that the LCA considered the emissions related to the use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) for ignition, pre-heating, or heating of the pyrolysis reactor. Additionally, there is no co-firing of fossil fuels and biomass in the same reaction chamber.	Y	The auditor confirmed that although the biochar system is an auto-thermal process, in which the thermal energy required to run the process is created from the feedstock being processed, the system relied on LPG to start the process and heat the reactor to the required temperature and pressure. Based on the above, the auditor confirmed that the emissions related to the use of fossil fuels were considered and there is no co-firing of fossil fuels and biomass in the same reaction chamber.	N/A.

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Evidence of safe handling and transport is provided and adequate for the production facility.	Y	<p>During the physical site visit, the auditor verified that biochar exiting the reactor is transported via double-walled screw conveyors, each encapsulated within a water-cooling system, where water flows between two metal cylinders.</p> <p>This process prevents moisture from being added to the biochar. At this stage, the biochar's moisture content is approximately 1.7%, with samples collected for moisture and density testing.</p> <p>The Next 150 SA then sprays water for dust suppression, keeping track of the amount sprayed. Additionally, The Next 150 SA presented Biochar Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and Operations Manuals to the auditor.</p> <p>Based on the above, the auditor confirmed that measures are taken for safe handling and transport of biochar to prevent fire and dust hazards.</p>	N/A.
Check that the Production Facility's documentation system is accurate and reliable for recording the quantity of biochar produced and sold.	Finding	<p>The auditor confirmed during the physical site visit that an appropriate system was in place to quantify the biochar produced and sold during the reporting period.</p> <p>However, The Next 150 SA implemented a data management system to generate reports for each batch of biochar produced. These reports include detailed information on each batch, such as the tons of biomass used, biochar produced, bio-oil produced, LPG consumption, and electricity usage. Additionally, The Next 150 SA prepared delivery reports that provide the total amount of dry biochar delivered.</p> <p>The auditor noted that the delivery reports sometimes aggregate data from multiple batches, making it somewhat challenging to reconcile the data between the "general batch report" and the "delivery reports".</p> <p>This finding has not impacted the CORCs calculation.</p>	Recommendation 1

Requirement	Requirement Met?	Verification Remarks	Corrective Action Request / Recommendations
Check that appropriate metering infrastructure is in place and calibrated correctly to quantify the Production Facility output and the energy use of the Production Facility.	Finding	<p>The auditor confirmed during the physical site visit and through additional evidence, that appropriate metering infrastructure was in place to quantify the produced biochar, and that the equipment used (onsite scale) was calibrated.</p> <p>Nevertheless, The Next 150 SA does not have an accurate meter to measure all energy sources, including diesel and LPG. Therefore, the diesel and LPG required estimations and internal assumptions to estimate the emissions per batch of biochar produced.</p> <p>Additionally, The Next 150 SA does not have a dedicated electricity meter for the facility. The electricity invoice is supplied by the industrial park manager who distributes costs across tenants. The auditor noted the electricity invoice did not contain the electricity consumed by The Next 150 SA (e.g. kWh or MWh).</p> <p>To calculate the total electricity consumption for biochar production, The Next 150 SA measured the amperage (Amp) consumed each hour throughout the facility. This value was then multiplied by a constant voltage of 473 V to calculate the kilowatts (kW) consumed per hour (kWh).</p>	Recommendation 2
Check that appropriate processes are in place to quantify the inputs to the Calculation formula of CO ₂ removal for the purpose of Preparing the Output Report and calculating CORCs.	Finding	<p>The Next 150 SA provided a single laboratory report for the entire reporting period. Since each batch may come from different sources or feedstocks, these variations might not be reflected in the lab result. Once The Next 150 SA has a comprehensive understanding of production, The Next 150 SA can determine the appropriate frequency for conducting laboratory tests.</p> <p>Except where noted above, the auditor confirmed that the calculation formula of CO₂ removal is appropriate and consistent with the evidence provided.</p>	Recommendation 3