



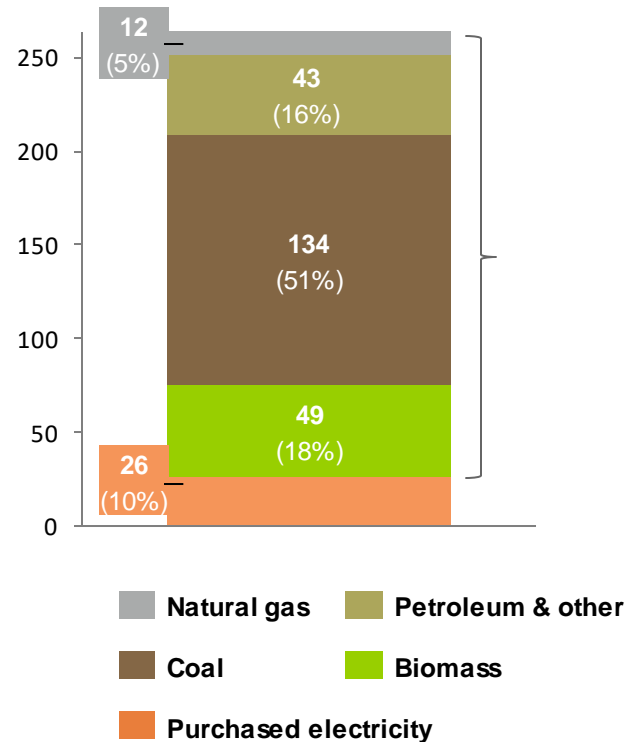
# Cement

Sector Perspectives

# Coal is the primary fuel and source of emissions; 83% of thermal emissions are produced at high temperatures

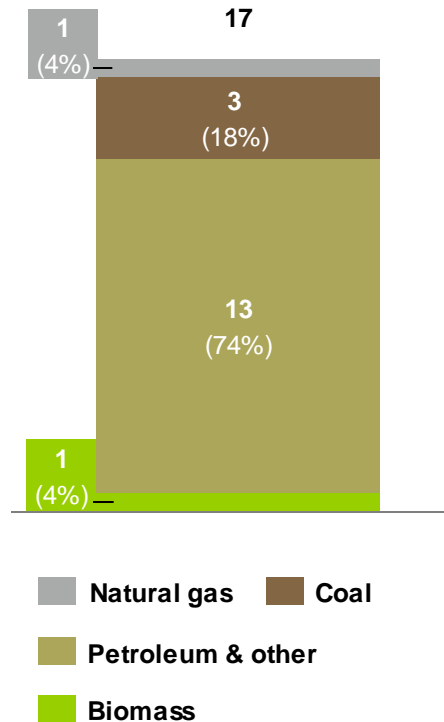
## Total energy consumption (2018)<sup>1</sup>

Trillion Btu



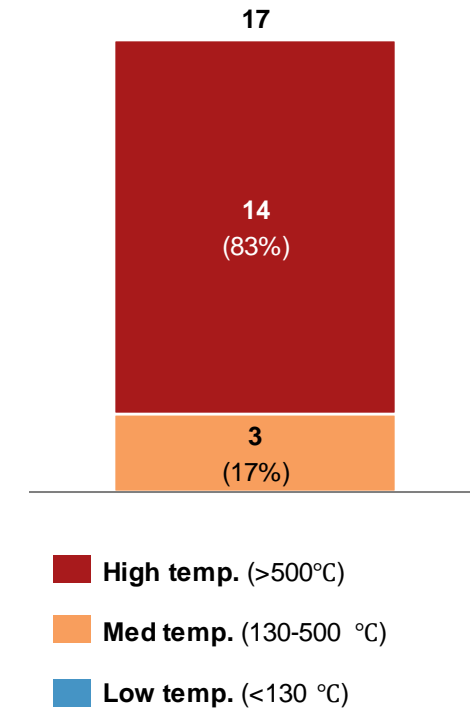
## Thermal emissions (2018)<sup>2</sup>

Million Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e



## Estimated thermal emissions by process temperature (2018)<sup>3</sup>

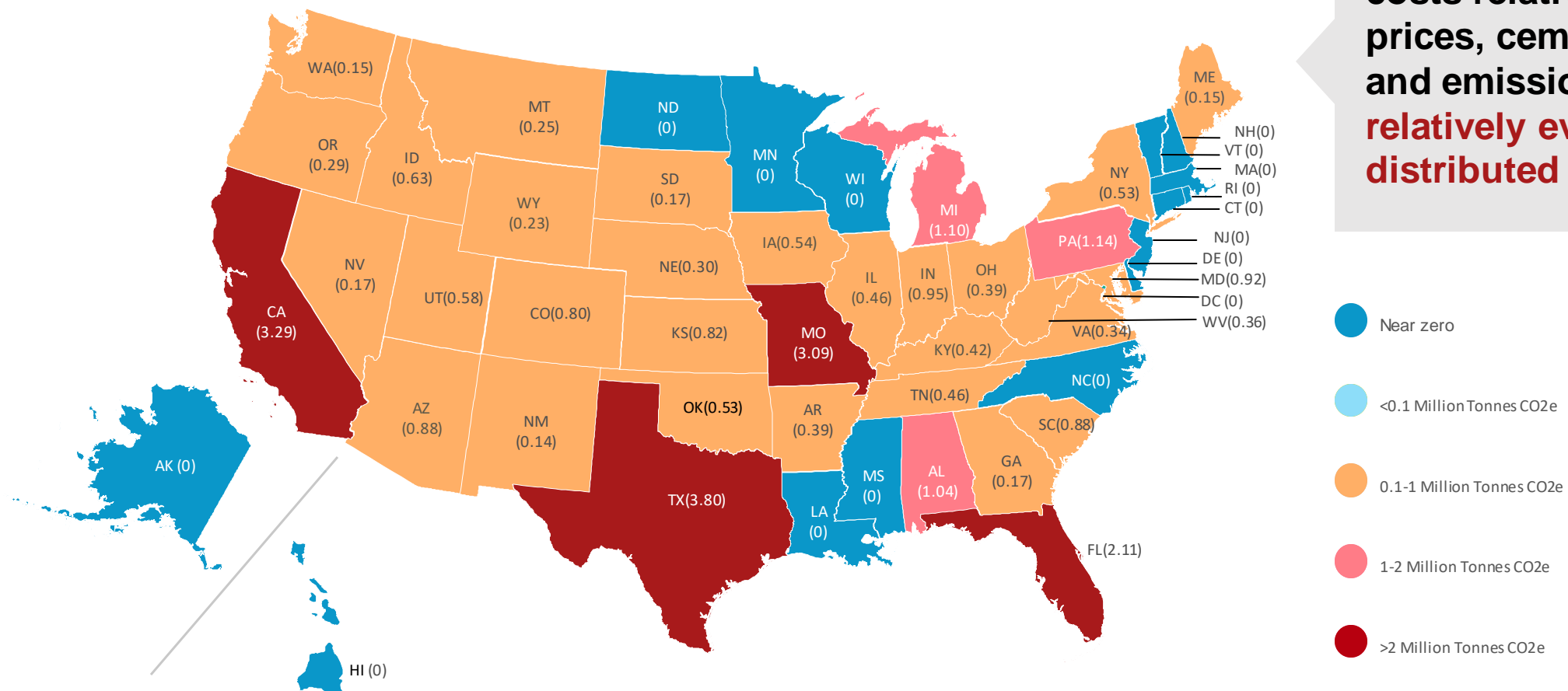
Million Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e



1. EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2019 2. Based on AEO 2019 Outlook for 2018 energy consumption by combustible fuel (excludes purchased electricity) and EPA emissions intensity of individual fuels; RNG and green hydrogen are considered net zero, biomass is estimated at 15 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/mmBtu 3. Calculated using the NREL MECS survey data for thermal energy use (2014)  
Source: EIA; EPA; NREL; BCG analysis

# Thermal emissions are evenly distributed across the country

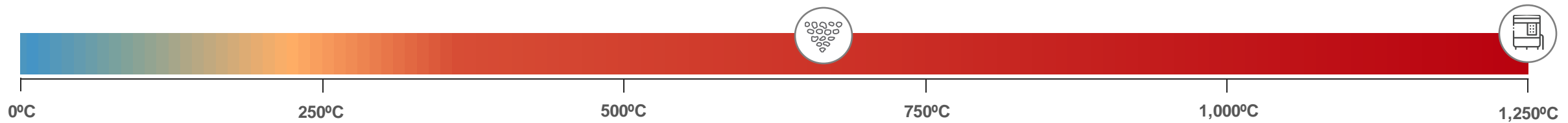
Cement thermal emissions by state (Million Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e)<sup>1</sup>



Due to high transportation costs relative to material prices, cement production and emissions are **relatively evenly distributed** across the US

1. EPA GHGRP Inventory FLIGHT Database (2018); captures actual onsite reported emissions for large emitters emitting >25K tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e/year

# Key thermal applications in cement manufacturing occur at high temperatures



## Pre-Calciners | ~600-700 °C

Before entering the kiln, the cement rawmix goes through a **pre-calcliner**, which disperses and suspends the rawmix with fuel (coal, waste gas) and hot air. The resultant heat calcines (decomposes the calcium carbonate) of the rawmix, which reduces the heat load of the rotary kiln.

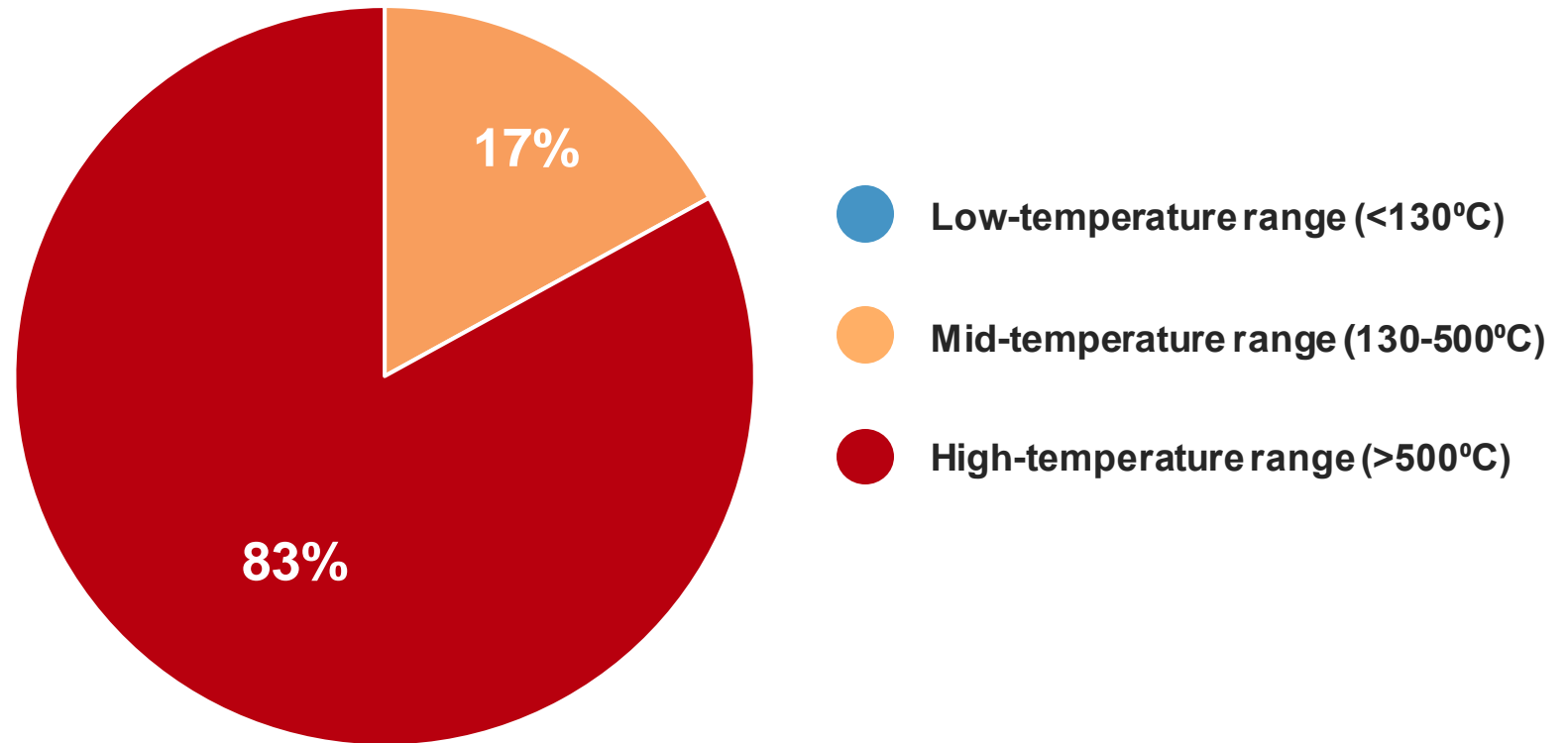


## Rotary Kilns | ~1200-1500 °C

Once raw materials such as limestone and clay are grinded into a fine powder called raw meal, it is heated in a cement **kiln** to form clinker, which are round lumps or nodules. The clinker is then ground to a powder and mixed with gypsum to create cement.

**83% of thermal emissions are produced at high temperatures**

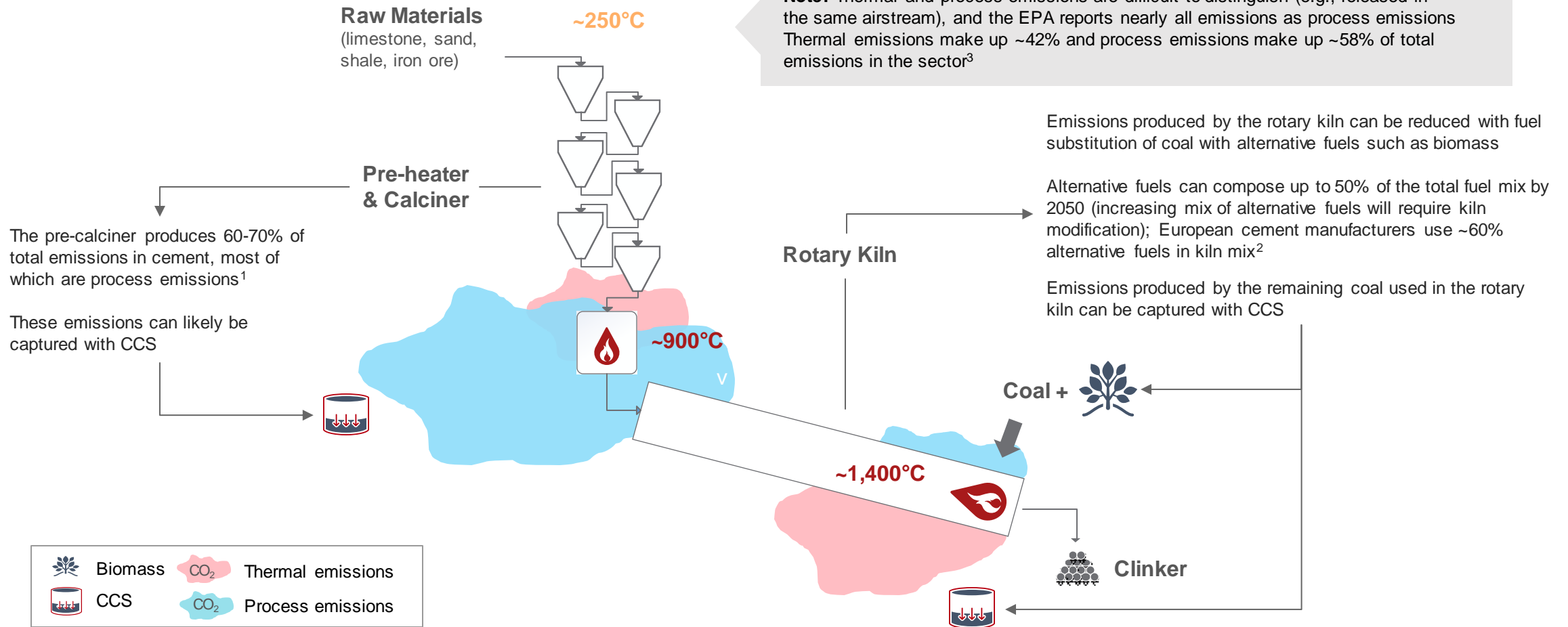
**Thermal energy consumption (TBtu) by heat temperature range (°C)<sup>1</sup>**



1. Calculated using the NREL MECS survey data for thermal energy use (2014)  
Source: EIA; EPA; NREL; BCG analysis

# Fuel combustion in manufacturing process occurs in the pre-calcliner and rotary kiln; thermal & process emissions are difficult to distinguish

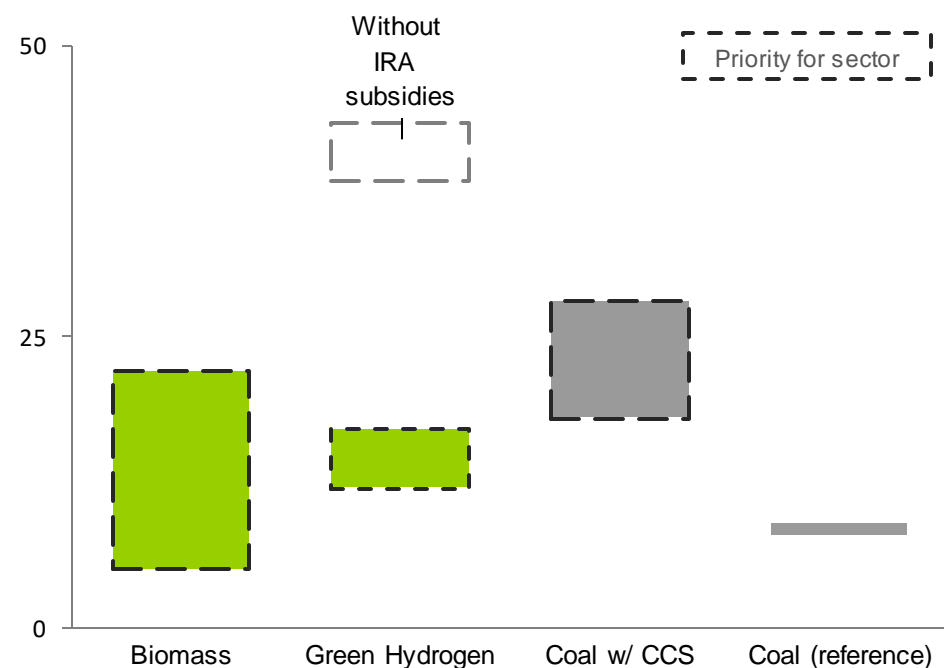
**Note:** Thermal and process emissions are difficult to distinguish (e.g., released in the same airstream), and the EPA reports nearly all emissions as process emissions. Thermal emissions make up ~42% and process emissions make up ~58% of total emissions in the sector<sup>3</sup>



# Biomass & green H2 appear most economic renewable-fuel alternatives

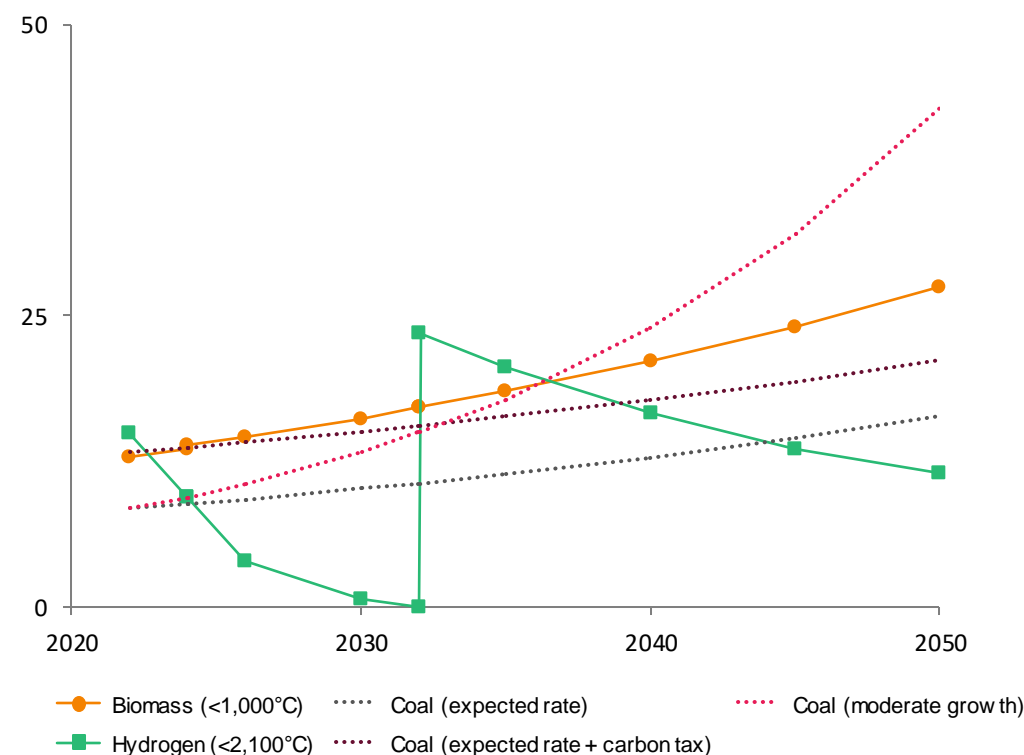
## 2022 LCOH for relevant technologies<sup>1</sup>

(\$/MMBtu)



## Projected LCOH for relevant technologies<sup>1</sup>

Average US LCOH (\$/MMBtu)

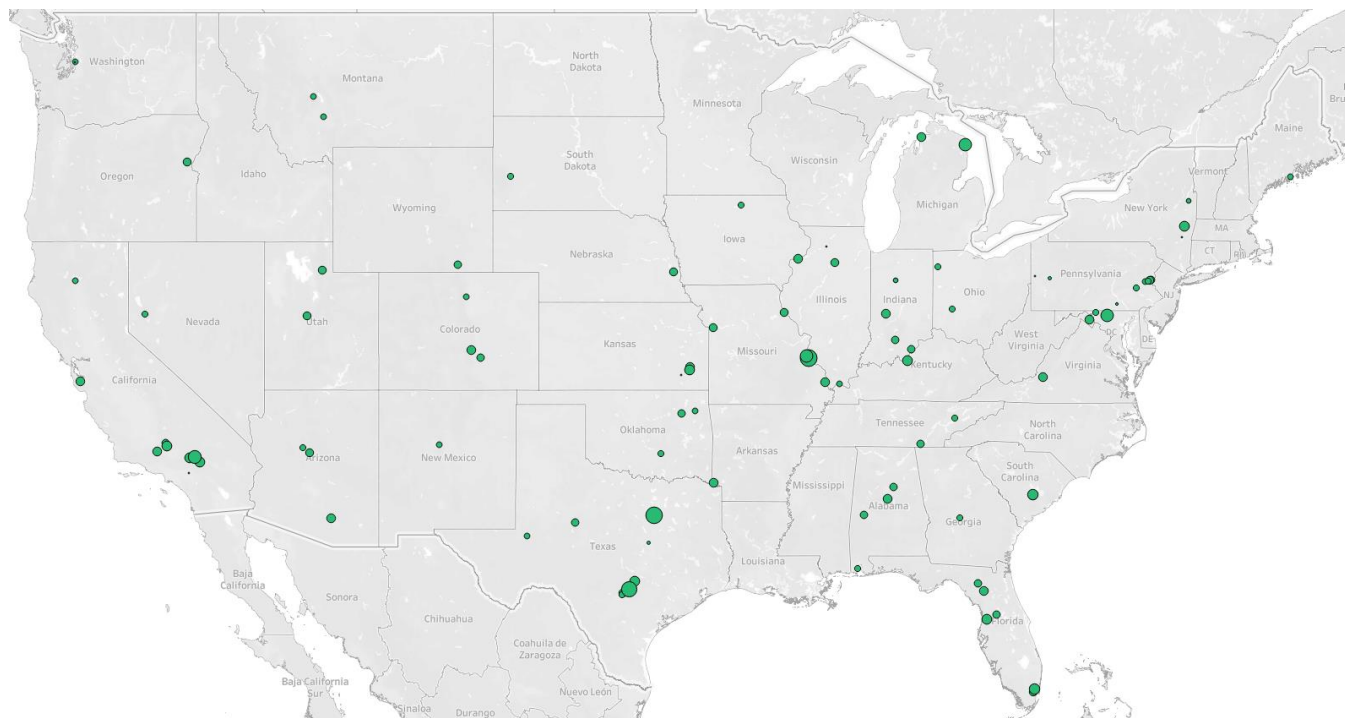


1. LCOH compares project lifetime costs against lifetime energy produced; costs include capital expense of equipment, fuel costs, and maintenance expense assumptions over the usable life of the energy asset. Electricity and natural gas pricing is based on national weighted average wholesale industrial end user electricity and natural gas prices for the past 1 year as of June 2022 industrial electricity modeled to grow at 2% per year. Electric heat pumps, electric resistive, and natural gas heating efficiencies modeled at 300%, 99%, 75%, respectively. Includes Inflation Reduction Act incentives 2. Combined with natural gas combustion; includes \$85/tonne 45Q tax credits from IRA 3. Uses weighted average US natural gas price for the past twelve months as of June 2022 (excludes Hawaii); assumes 75% combustion efficiency Source: EIA; EPA; Inflation Reduction Act; BCG analysis



# Facilities are distributed across the US; site analysis likely required to determine fuel and CCS availability

## US Cement thermal emissions by zip code<sup>1</sup>

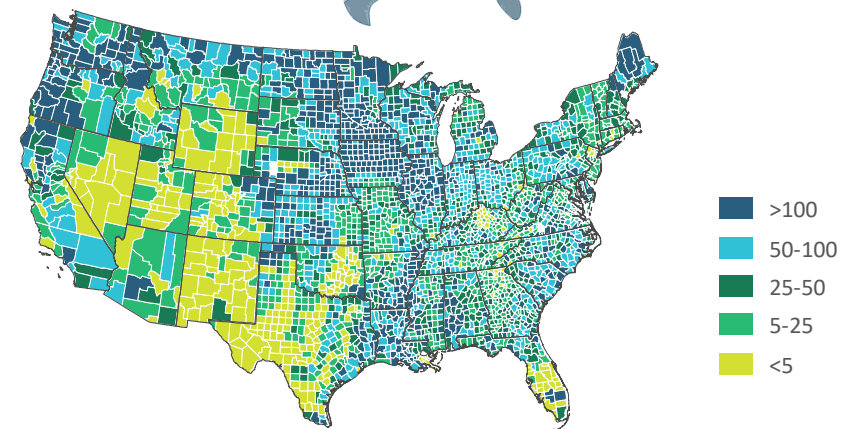


- 0.5 Million Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e
- 1.0 Million Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e
- 1.4 Million Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e

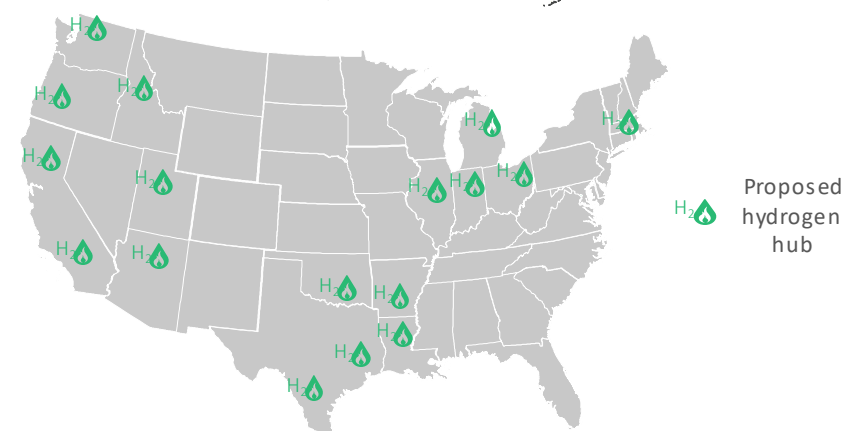
Carbon sequestration  
availability <sup>2</sup>



Biomass supply<sup>3</sup>

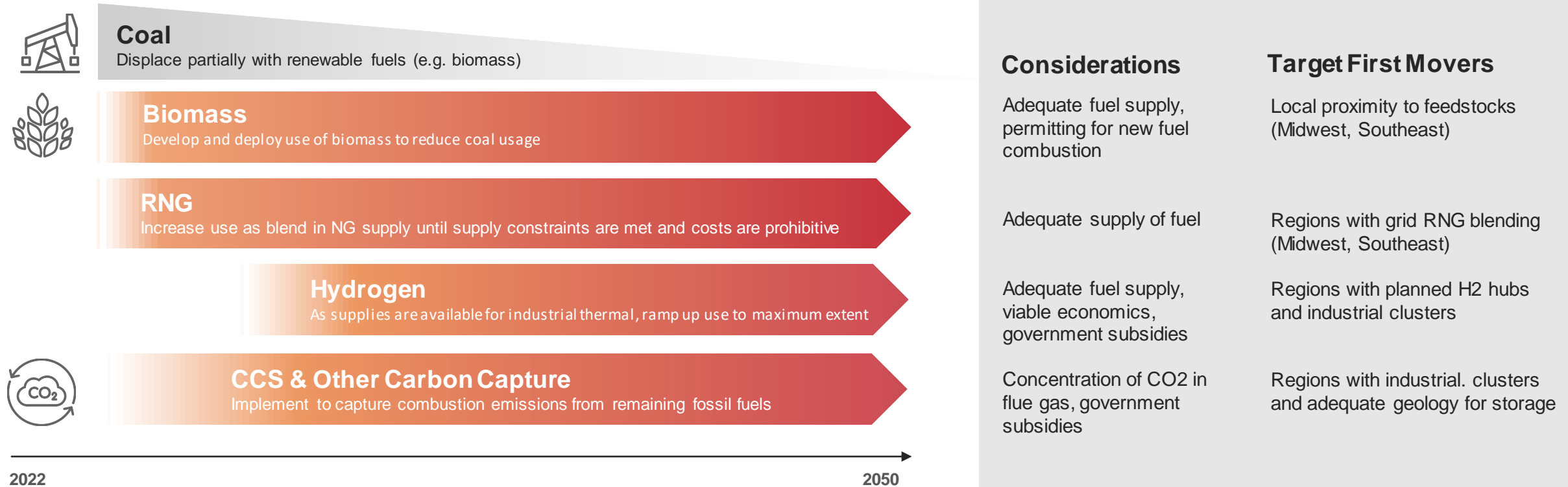


Proposed  
hydrogen hubs<sup>4</sup>





# Decarbonization pathways



The Cement sector uses coal as the primary fuel in its kilns, where process and combustion emissions are intermixed. To reduce thermal emissions, **cement producers should displace fossil fuels with renewables to the maximum extent possible** to maintain clinker composition while also deploying CCS

# Thermal decarbonization pathways

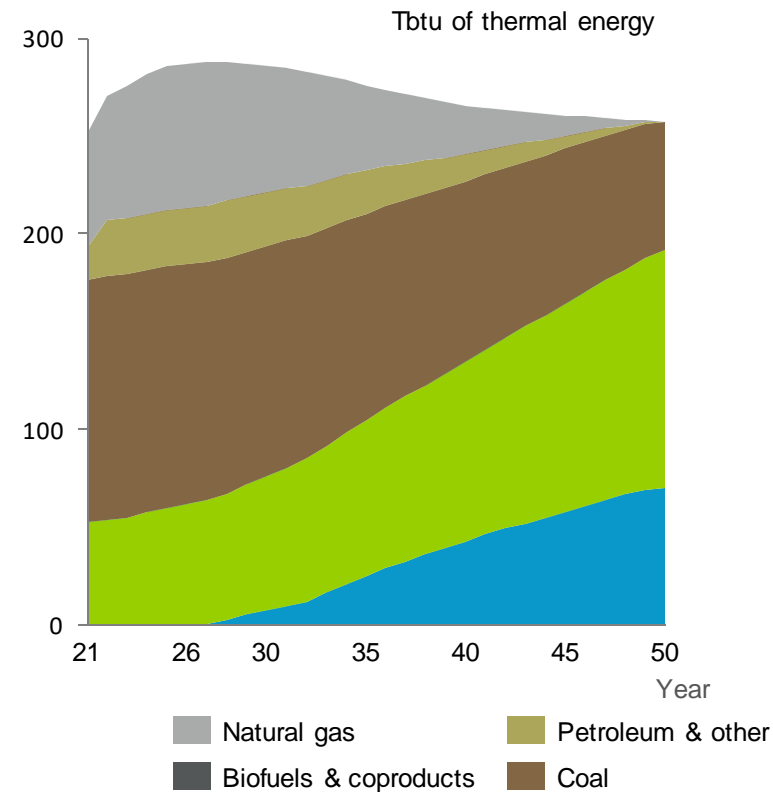
The Cement sector creates more process emissions than thermal emissions, and both emissions are typically emitted in the same air stream. As a result, **it is difficult to distinguish between process and thermal emissions** and the EPA GHGRP flight database does not identify meaningful thermal emissions. However, thermal emissions make up ~42% of total emissions (process emissions make up ~58%)<sup>3</sup>

The cement industry heat process applications require heat driven by fossil fuel combustion as well as fossil coal as a feedstock

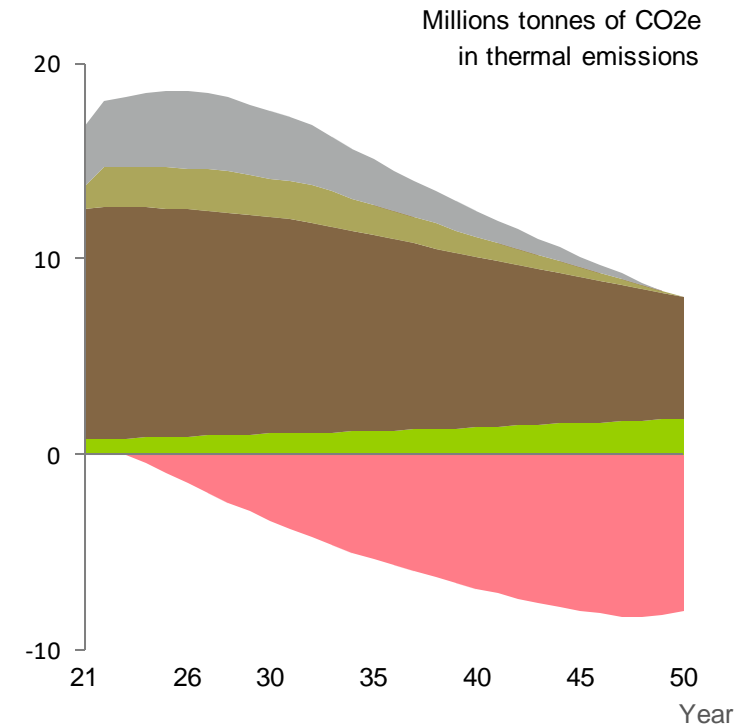
Heavy emitting coal, which is used for heat and as feedstock in the rotary kiln, can be **partially displaced with biomass**, which can compose up to 50% of the total rotary kiln mix by 2050; some European cement manufacturers are using ~60% alternative fuels in their rotary kiln mix (displacing ~40% of coal)<sup>4</sup>

Given the inability to distinguish process and thermal emissions, it is likely that **carbon capture deployed to capture process emissions (~58% of total emissions) will also be used to capture thermal emissions (~42% of total emissions)**, until a longer-term alternative for coal-based cement production is developed

## Thermal energy consumption<sup>1</sup>



## Thermal emissions<sup>2</sup>



1. Total thermal energy consumption based on EIA 2022 Outlook; forecasted energy mix per BCG analysis 2. Thermal emissions calculated based on emissions intensity of individual fuels; RNG and clean hydrogen assumed to be net zero fuels, biomass assumed to have an emissions intensity of 15 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e per mmBtu, electricity modeled based on US electric grid emissions intensity 80% and 100% renew ables by 2030 and 2050 3. DOE Industrial Decarbonization Roadmap (2022) 4. PCA Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality (2021) Source: EIA outlook; EIA emissions intensity; BCG analysis

# Disclaimer

This document has been prepared in good faith on the basis of information available at the date of publication without any independent verification. The drafters do not guarantee or make any representation or warranty as to the accuracy, reliability, completeness, or currency of the information in this document nor its usefulness in achieving any purpose. Readers are responsible for assessing the relevance and accuracy of the content of this document. It is unreasonable for any party to rely on this document for any purpose and the drafters will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost, or expense incurred or arising by reason of any person using or relying on information in this document. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the drafters shall have no liability whatsoever to any party, and any person using this document hereby waives any rights and claims it may have at any time against BCG with regard to the document. Receipt and review of this document shall be deemed agreement with and consideration for the foregoing.

This document is based on a primary qualitative and quantitative research. It does not provide legal, accounting, or tax advice. Parties responsible for obtaining independent advice concerning these matters. This advice may affect the guidance in the document. Further, the drafters have made no undertaking to update the document after the date hereof, notwithstanding that such information may become outdated or inaccurate. The drafters have used data from various sources and assumptions provided to the drafters from other sources. The drafters have not independently verified the data and assumptions from these sources used in these analyses. Changes in the underlying data or operating assumptions will clearly impact the analyses and conclusions.

This document is not intended to make or influence any recommendation and should not be construed as such by the reader or any other entity.

Apart from any use as permitted under the US Copyright Act 1975, no part may be reproduced in any form.

