



ACAA
AMERICAN COAL ASH ASSOCIATION



— BENEFICIAL USE OF COAL COMBUSTION PRODUCTS —

AN AMERICAN RECYCLING SUCCESS STORY

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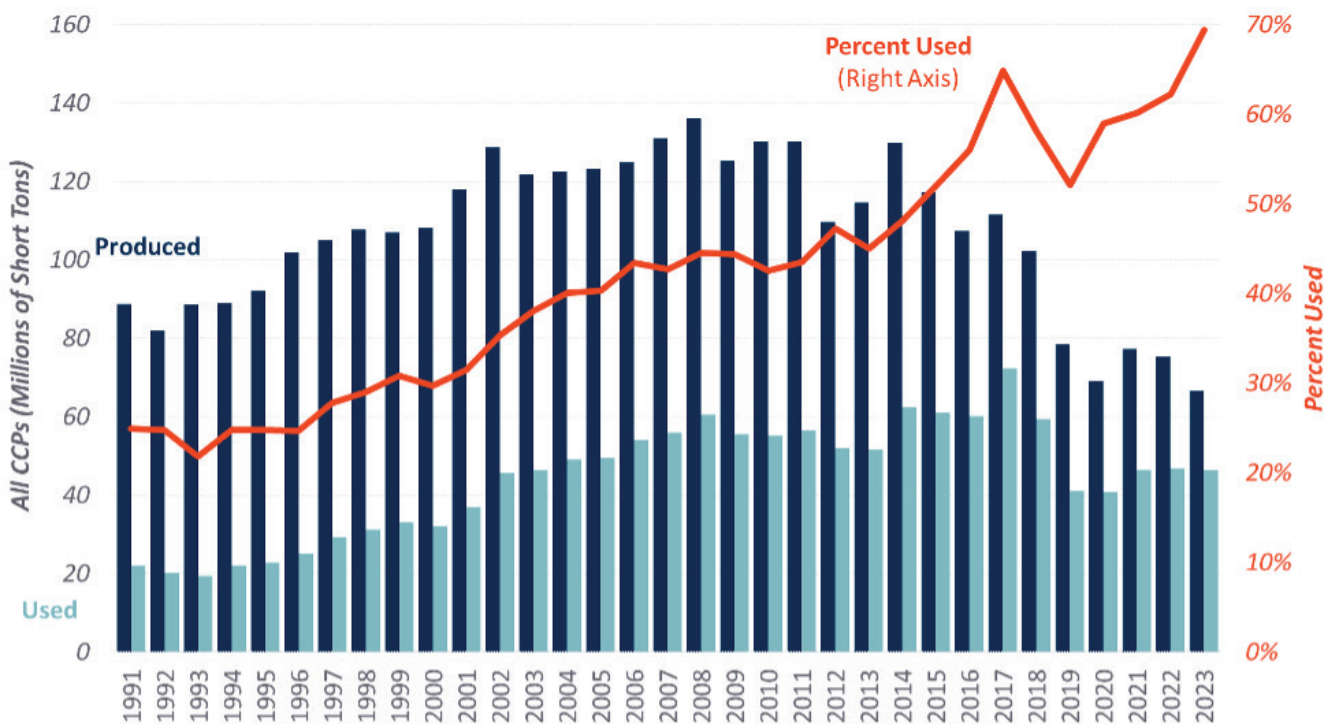
Coal combustion products – often referred to as “coal ash” – are solid materials produced when coal is burned to generate electricity. There are many good reasons to view coal ash as a resource, rather than a waste. Using it conserves natural resources and saves energy. In many cases, products made with coal ash perform better than products made without it.

As coal continues to produce 20 percent of the electricity generation in the United States, significant volumes of coal ash are produced. Since 1968, the American Coal Ash Association has tracked the production and use of all types of coal ash. These surveys are intended to show broad utilization patterns and ACAA’s data have been accepted by industry and numerous government agencies as the best available metrics of beneficial use practices.

Sixty-nine percent of the coal ash produced during 2023 was recycled – increasing from 62 percent in 2022 and marking the ninth consecutive year that more than half of the coal ash produced in the United States was beneficially used rather than disposed.

In addition to this “fresh” ash production and use, a rapidly growing practice of “harvesting” previously disposed ash has begun to supply significant volumes of material to beneficial use markets. ACAA estimates more than 4 million tons of previously disposed ash was utilized in a variety of applications in 2023, including coal ash pond closure activities, concrete products, cement kiln raw feed, and gypsum panel manufacturing.

All CCPs Production and Use with Percent



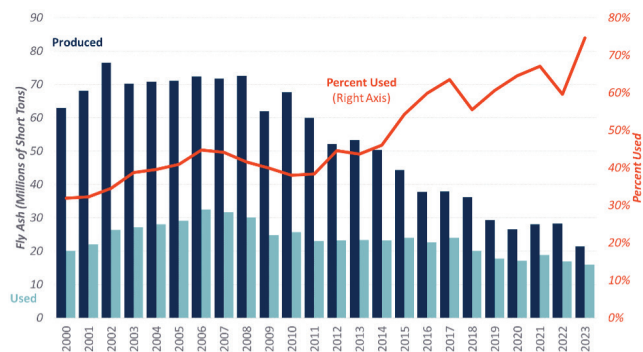
Fly Ash

Fly ash is a powdery material that is captured by emissions control equipment before it can “fly” up the stack. Mostly comprised of silicas, aluminas and calcium compounds, fly ash has mechanical and chemical properties that make it a valuable ingredient in a wide range of concrete products. Roads, bridges, buildings, concrete blocks and other concrete products commonly contain fly ash.

Concrete made with coal fly ash is stronger and more durable than concrete made with cement alone. By reducing the amount of manufactured cement needed to produce concrete, fly ash accounts for approximately 12 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions reductions each year.

Other major uses for fly ash include constructing structural fills and embankments, waste stabilization and solidification, mine reclamation, and use as raw feed in cement manufacturing.

Fly Ash Production & Use 2000 – 2023



Fly ash ranges in color from gray to buff depending on the type of coal.



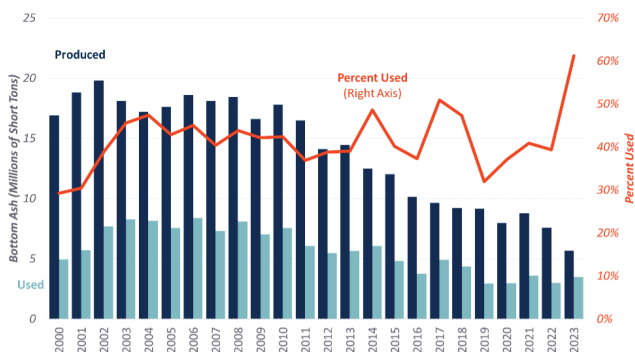
The American Road & Transportation Builders Association estimates coal fly ash use in roads and bridges saves \$5.2 billion per year in U.S. construction costs.

Bottom Ash

Bottom ash is a heavier, granular material that is collected from the “bottom” of coal-fueled boilers. Bottom ash is often used as an aggregate, replacing sand and gravel. Bottom ash is often used as an ingredient in manufacturing concrete blocks.

Other major uses for bottom ash include constructing structural fills and embankments, mine reclamation, and use as raw feed in cement manufacturing. Increasing volumes of bottom ash are being ground for use in concrete like fly ash.

Bottom Ash Production & Use 2000 – 2023



Bottom ash can be used in asphalt paving.



Bottom ash is a granular material suitable for replacing gravel and sand.

Synthetic Gypsum

Power plants equipped with flue gas desulphurization (“FGD”) emissions controls, also known as “scrubbers,” create byproducts that include synthetic gypsum. Although this material is not technically “ash” because it is not present in the coal, it is managed and regulated as a coal combustion product.

Scrubbers utilize high-calcium sorbents, such as lime or limestone, to absorb sulfur and other elements from flue gases. Depending on the scrubber configuration, the byproducts vary in consistency from wet sludge to dry powdered material.

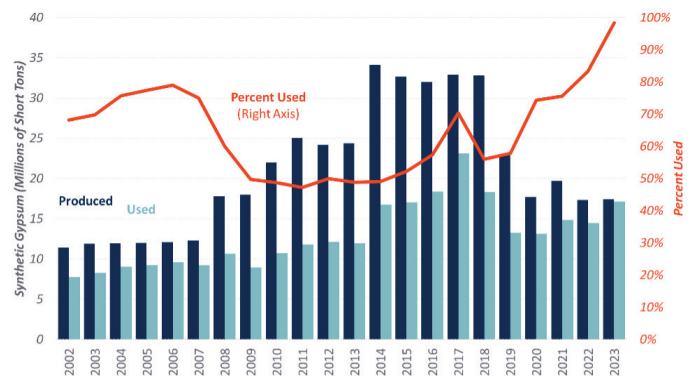
Synthetic gypsum is used extensively in the manufacturing of wallboard. A rapidly growing use of synthetic gypsum is in agriculture, where it is used to improve soil conditions and prevent runoff of fertilizers and pesticides.

Other major uses for synthetic gypsum include waste stabilization, mine reclamation, and cement manufacturing.



More than half of the gypsum wallboard manufactured in the United States utilizes synthetic gypsum from coal-fueled power plants.

Synthetic Gypsum Production & Use 2002 – 2023



Synthetic gypsum is often more pure than naturally mined gypsum.



Synthetic gypsum applied to farm fields improves soil quality and performance.

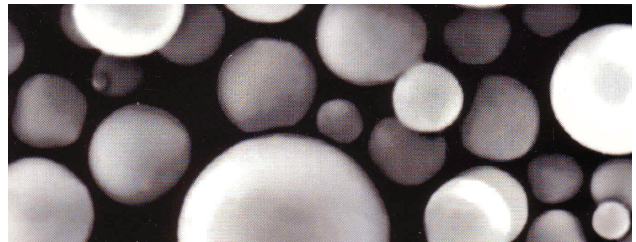
Other Products and Uses

Boiler Slag – is a molten ash collected at the base of older generation boilers that is quenched with water and shatters into black, angular particles having a smooth, glassy appearance. Boiler slag is in high demand for beneficial use as blasting grit and roofing granules, but supplies are decreasing because of the retirement from service of older power plants that produce boiler slag.



Nearly 90 percent of all boiler slag is beneficially used.

Cenospheres – are harvested from fly ash and are comprised of microscopic hollow spheres. Cenospheres are strong and lightweight, making them useful as fillers in a wide variety of materials including concrete, paint, plastics and metal composites.



Because of their high value, cenospheres – seen here in a microscopic view – are measured by the pound rather than by the ton.

FBC Ash – is a category of ash from Fluidized Bed Combustion power plants. These plants reclaim waste coal for fuel and create an ash by-product that is most commonly used to reclaim abandoned surface mines and abate acid mine drainage. Ash from FBC power plants can also be used for waste and soil stabilization.



This regional park was constructed with FBC ash on the site of a former waste coal pile.

New Uses on Horizon

New beneficial uses for coal ash are continually under development. Researchers and public policy makers are increasing their focus on the potential for extracting strategic rare earth minerals from ash for use in advanced manufacturing. Researchers and ash marketers are also focusing heavily on improving beneficiation processes used in harvesting ash that has already been disposed for beneficial use in established applications.



2023 Coal Combustion Product (CCP) Production & Use Survey Report

Beneficial Utilization versus Production Totals (Short Tons)									
2023 CCP Categories	Fly Ash	Bottom Ash	Boiler Slag	FGD Gypsum	FGD Material Wet Scrubbers	FGD Material Dry Scrubbers	FGD Other	FBC Ash	CCP Production / Utilization Totals
Total CCPs Produced by Category	21,423,716	5,676,177	3,322,110	17,424,765	5,392,015	3,296,140	0	10,176,388	66,711,312
Total CCPs Used by Category	15,994,917	3,471,766	384,810	17,144,903	6,360	44,416	0	9,272,650	46,319,822
1. Concrete/Concrete Products /Grout	11,888,495	403,598	0	1,216,081	0	0	0	0	13,488,173
2. Blended Cement/ Feed for Clinker	3,304,658	1,324,489	123,110	2,034,977	0	0	0	0	6,787,233
3. Flowable Fill	343	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	343
4. Structural Fills/Embankments	0	44,950	0	0	0	0	0	0	44,950
5. Road Base/Sub-base	26,578	108,921	0	0	0	0	0	0	135,499
6. Soil Modification/Stabilization	275,732	0	0	11,067	0	0	0	0	286,800
7. Mineral Filler in Asphalt	1,137	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,846	3,983
8. Snow and Ice Control	0	36,789	2,587	0	0	0	0	0	39,377
9. Blasting Grit/Roofing Granules	0	30,949	259,113	0	0	0	0	0	290,062
10. Mining Applications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,289,804	9,289,804
11. Gypsum Panel Products (formerly Wallboard)	0	0	0	13,061,563	0	0	0	0	13,061,563
12. Waste Stabilization/Solidification	363,046	0	0	0	6,360	0	0	0	369,406
13. Agriculture	0	0	0	733,938	0	0	0	0	733,938
14. Aggregate	0	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	62
15. Oil/Gas Field Services	115,067	0	0	0	0	44,416	0	0	159,483
16. CCR Pond Closure Activities	0	1,522,071	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,522,071
17. Miscellaneous/Other	39,862	0	0	87,216	0	0	0	0	127,078
Summary Utilization to Production Rate									
CCP Categories	Fly Ash	Bottom Ash	Boiler Slag	FGD Gypsum	FGD Material Wet Scrubbers	FGD Material Dry Scrubbers	FGD Other	FBC Ash	CCP Utilization Total
Totals by CCP Type/Application	15,994,917	3,471,766	384,810	17,144,903	6,360	44,416	0	9,272,650	46,319,822
Category Use to Production Rate (%)	74.6%	61.16%	11.58%	98.3%	0.12%	1.35%	0.00%	91.12%	69.43%
2023 Cements/Preares Sold (Pounds)	0	Data in this survey represents 75,272 GWs of Name Plate rating of the total industry wide approximate 182,898 GW capacity based on EIA's May 2024 Electric Power Monthly.							
CCPs Imported in 2023 (Short Tons)	0								
CCPs Exported in 2023 (Short Tons)	0								

Notes:

These are estimates for entire U.S. utility and IPP sectors calculated by dividing the survey respondents' data by the portion of the overall industry's coal burn they represent, as reported in the July 2024 EIA Electric Power Monthly (30%).

Coal Ash Harvesting Growing Rapidly

With the number of coal-fueled power plants in the United States declining, the coal ash beneficial use industry is evolving to increasingly utilize previously disposed ash through an activity known as “harvesting.” Harvested ash utilization represents growth in coal ash recycling above and beyond the increasing volumes of ash recycled from current power plant operations.

A variety of ash beneficiation technologies have been developed to ensure that harvested ash meets all product performance specifications and additional consensus standards have been adopted to guide the characterization of harvestable materials and the operation of harvesting projects.

ACAA estimates more than 4 million tons of previously disposed ash was utilized in a variety of applications in 2023, including coal ash pond closure activities, concrete products, cement kiln raw feed, and gypsum panel manufacturing. Major harvesting projects are operating and under development in all regions of the United States.

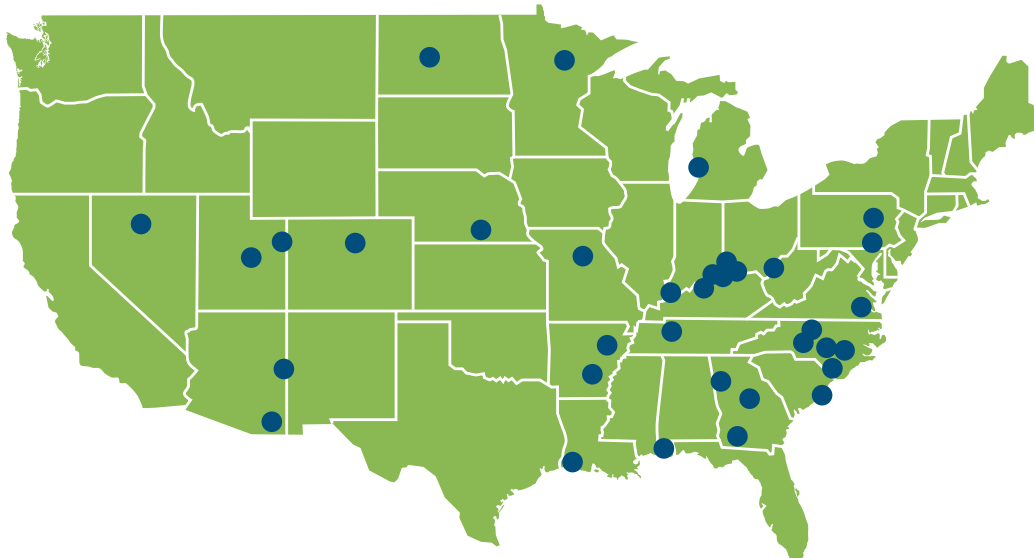


Eco Material Technologies harvests approximately 100,000 tons of coal ash annually from a monofill in Montour County, Pa.



Heidelberg Materials' Winyah STAR® plant, in Georgetown, S.C., has processed 2.4 million tons of harvested ash since commencing commercial operations in 2015.

Coal Ash Harvesting Sites – Existing and Under Development



The American Coal Ash Association was established in 1968 as a trade organization devoted to recycling the materials created when we burn coal to generate electricity. Our members comprise the world's foremost experts on coal ash (fly ash and bottom ash), and boiler slag, flue gas desulfurization gypsum or “synthetic” gypsum, and other “FGD” materials captured by emissions controls. While other organizations focus on disposal issues, ACAA's mission is to advance the management and use of coal combustion products in ways that are: environmentally responsible; technically sound; commercially competitive; and supportive of a sustainable global community.