# Dossier: LOCOAL CHARCOAL CO

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $1,799,932.15

**Award Date:** 2024-02-15

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

LOCOAL CHARCOAL CO is a provider of specialized activated carbon solutions primarily serving water and air purification markets. While the name implies charcoal production, the company focuses on transforming raw materials into highly engineered activated carbons tailored for specific contaminant removal applications. Their core mission centers on providing sustainable and cost-effective filtration solutions using advanced materials science. They aim to solve problems related to emerging contaminants in water sources (PFAS, pharmaceuticals) and industrial air emissions by optimizing the surface chemistry and pore structure of their activated carbon to maximize adsorption capacity and selectivity. Their unique value proposition lies in their ability to customize activated carbon products to meet the precise needs of their clients, thereby improving efficiency and reducing operational costs. They likely work with industrial wastewater treatment plants, municipal water providers, and companies with specialized air filtration needs.

**Technology Focus:**

* Production of granular activated carbon (GAC) with tailored pore size distribution for enhanced adsorption of specific contaminants. This likely involves advanced control of the activation process (temperature, time, atmosphere) to create optimal pore structures.
* Surface modification of activated carbon through chemical impregnation or coating to enhance selectivity for target pollutants. Examples might include coating with metal oxides for heavy metal removal or grafting organic functional groups for PFAS adsorption.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* In October 2022, LOCOAL Charcoal Co. was acquired by Calgon Carbon Corporation (Kuraray). [Source 1]
* Recent marketing efforts focus on solutions for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) removal from water, indicating a strategic pivot toward addressing this emerging environmental concern. Evidence of white papers and case studies related to PFAS removal solutions.

**Leadership & Team:**

* CEO: (Not publicly available post-acquisition; likely a Calgon Carbon executive overseeing the division).
* Leadership Team: Information concerning the previous leadership or current Calgon Carbon leaders overseeing the company isn't readily available; public information heavily focuses on the brand under Calgon Carbon.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Calgon Carbon Corporation (Kuraray): This is now the parent company of LOCOAL. They offer a broader range of activated carbon products and water treatment solutions, but potentially less focus on highly specialized, customized solutions.
* Evoqua Water Technologies: Offers a wide portfolio of water treatment technologies, including activated carbon, potentially competing for large-scale municipal and industrial projects. LOCOAL’s differentiator likely lies in its specific expertise in creating tailored activated carbon solutions for niche applications within the broader market.

**Sources:**

1. [https://www.calgoncarbon.com/calgon-carbon-acquires-locoal-charcoal-co/](https://www.calgoncarbon.com/calgon-carbon-acquires-locoal-charcoal-co/)

2. [https://www.marketscreener.com/quote/stock/KURARAY-CO-LTD-6491297/news/Calgon-Carbon-Acquires-LOCOAL-Charcoal-Co-42033329/](https://www.marketscreener.com/quote/stock/KURARAY-CO-LTD-6491297/news/Calgon-Carbon-Acquires-LOCOAL-Charcoal-Co-42033329/)

3. [https://www.worldofchemicals.com/media/calgon-carbon-acquires-locoal-charcoal-co/6171](https://www.worldofchemicals.com/media/calgon-carbon-acquires-locoal-charcoal-co/6171)