

THE BIO FIBER CONSTRUCTION SYSTEM

Project Readiness Checklist

How To Use This Checklist

This checklist is designed to help you quickly determine whether your current project is a strong candidate for the Bio Fiber construction system before investing time in a full project review conversation.

Work through each section and check the boxes that apply to your project. At the end, use the scoring guide to interpret your results and identify the most useful next step.

There are no wrong answers. The goal is honest fit assessment, not qualification for its own sake. If your project is not a strong fit right now, the checklist will help you understand why and what conditions would need to change.

If you have questions at any point, our team is available to walk through the checklist with you directly.

Bio Fiber Industries

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Part 1: Project Scope

This section confirms whether the Bio Fiber system is applicable to your project type and scale.

1.1 Building Type

Check all that apply:

- ADU or accessory dwelling unit
- Single-family residential: new construction
- Single-family residential: renovation or addition
- Multifamily residential: new construction (3 stories or fewer)
- Multifamily residential: new construction (4 or more stories)
- Multifamily residential: retrofit or renovation
- Commercial: office, retail, or mixed-use
- Commercial: medical, institutional, or educational
- Industrial or warehouse
- Other: _____

If none of the above apply, the Bio Fiber system may not be suited to your project type. Contact us to discuss.

1.2 Wall Assembly Scope

Check all that apply:

- Project involves above-grade exterior wall assemblies
- Project involves interior partition walls with thermal or acoustic requirements
- Project involves below-grade or foundation wall assemblies
- Wall assembly is open to specification: no system has been committed to yet
- Wall assembly has been specified but is open to value engineering
- Wall assembly is part of a renovation or retrofit of existing walls

Note: The Bio Fiber system is primarily designed for above-grade exterior wall assemblies. If your project involves below-grade or foundation walls as the primary scope, contact us to discuss applicability.

1.3 Project Scale

Select the option that best describes your project:

- Under 1,000 square feet of wall area
- 1,000 – 5,000 square feet of wall area
- 5,000 – 20,000 square feet of wall area
- 20,000 – 100,000 square feet of wall area
- Over 100,000 square feet of wall area
- Not yet determined

The Bio Fiber system is applicable across project scales. Larger projects may benefit from early-stage technical consultation to confirm component sizing, delivery logistics, and installation sequencing.

1.4 Construction Type

Select all that apply:

- New construction: ground-up build
- Addition to an existing building
- Retrofit or renovation of existing wall assemblies
- Phased renovation: some walls now, others later
- Gut renovation: full interior removal, exterior shell retained

PART 2: DESIGN & SPECIFICATION

STAGE

This section assesses where you are in the design process and whether the timing is right to integrate the Bio Fiber system.

2.1 Current Project Stage

Select the stage that best describes your project right now:

- Conceptual or pre-design: project scope is being defined
- Schematic design: project is being laid out, systems not yet specified
- Design development: systems are being specified, details being developed
- Construction documents: drawings are being completed for permit submission
- Permit submitted or approved: design is locked
- Pre-construction: permit in hand, construction start upcoming
- Under construction: active build in progress
- Renovation or retrofit: existing building, planning phase

Ideal timing: The Bio Fiber system integrates most efficiently when introduced at schematic design or design development, before wall assemblies are fully specified and structural details are set. Introduction during construction documents is possible, but may require additional coordination. Introduction during active construction is assessed on a case-by-case basis.

2.2 Design Team Availability

- An architect or designer is actively involved in the project
- The architect or designer is available to review system integration and modify specifications if needed
- A structural engineer is available to review framing and load requirements
- A mechanical engineer is involved and can assess HVAC implications of wall assembly changes
- The contractor or construction manager has been engaged and can provide input on installation
- The design team has experience specifying performance-based wall assemblies

2.3 Specification Status

- Wall assembly has not yet been specified: we are evaluating options
- Wall assembly has been specified, but no materials have been purchased or committed
- Wall assembly is specified and under review: value engineering is possible
- A preliminary assembly has been selected but is not finalized
- We are open to alternative assembly approaches if performance and cost case is clear

2.4 Documentation Requirements

- Project requires wall assembly documentation for permit submission
- Project requires energy code compliance documentation (IECC, WSEC, Title 24, or equivalent)
- Project requires fire resistance documentation (assembly ratings, ASTM test data, or equivalent)
- Project requires LEED, WELL, Living Building Challenge, or other green building certification documentation
- Project involves a lender or investor with energy performance requirements
- Project is federally funded or involves HUD, USDA, or other agency with energy code requirements

Note: Bio Fiber provides system-level documentation to support permit submissions and compliance documentation. Specific documentation availability should be confirmed with our team for your jurisdiction and project type.

PART 3: ENERGY CODE & COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

This section identifies the compliance environment in which your project operates and whether the Bio Fiber system is positioned to help you meet it.

3.1 Jurisdiction & Applicable Code

- Project is in Washington State (2021 WSEC applies: one of the most stringent energy codes in the country)
- Project is in California (Title 24 applies)
- Project is in a state that has adopted the 2021 IECC or equivalent
- Project is in a state that has adopted the 2018 IECC
- Project is in a state that has adopted the 2015 IECC or older
- Project is in a jurisdiction with a local reach code more stringent than the state code
- I am not certain which energy code applies to my project

If you are unsure which energy code applies to your project, our team can help you identify the applicable standard for your jurisdiction.

3.2 Compliance Challenges

Check any compliance challenges your project is currently facing or anticipating:

- Meeting continuous insulation requirements without adding significant wall depth
- Managing thermal bridging through steel or wood framing members
- Demonstrating continuous air barrier compliance across the full wall assembly
- Meeting vapor management requirements for the climate zone without a rigid vapor barrier
- Achieving whole-assembly U-factor targets that component-level specs are not meeting
- Complying with tightened air leakage testing thresholds (blower door requirements)
- Meeting energy code requirements on a retrofit project where the existing envelope is constrained
- Navigating a jurisdiction that has adopted the 2024 IECC or is expected to during the project timeline
- Documenting wall assembly performance for a commissioning or third-party review requirement

The more of these boxes you check, the more directly the Bio Fiber system's integrated assembly approach addresses your compliance challenge.

3.3 Sustainability & Performance Goals

- Project has a stated energy performance target beyond code minimum
- Project is pursuing LEED certification (any level)
- Project is pursuing WELL Building Standard certification
- Project is pursuing Living Building Challenge or net-zero energy certification
- Project owner has stated ESG, sustainability, or carbon reduction goals
- Project is in a jurisdiction with Building Performance Standards or carbon emissions limits
- Tenant or end-user has sustainability requirements that affect building specification
- Project is seeking green financing, green bonds, or sustainability-linked lending

PART 4: PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

This section confirms that the Bio Fiber system's performance profile matches your project's requirements.

4.1 Fire Resistance

- Project requires a fire-rated wall assembly
- Project is a multifamily building with fire separation requirements between units or floors
- Project is a commercial building with occupancy-based fire resistance requirements
- Project is in a Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) zone with enhanced fire resistance requirements
- Fire resistance documentation is required for permit submission

[Note to Ashley: Confirm specific fire resistance ratings available for the Bio Fiber system before finalizing this section. If ratings are pending, note that fire resistance documentation is available upon request and insert specific ratings when confirmed.]

4.2 Moisture & Indoor Air Quality

- Project is in a mixed or marine climate where moisture management is a design priority (e.g., Pacific Northwest, Northeast)
- Project has had prior moisture, mold, or condensation issues in wall assemblies
- Project owner or occupants have stated indoor air quality requirements
- Project is a healthcare, educational, or residential building where occupant health is a primary design consideration
- Project is targeting VOC-free or low-emission material specifications
- Project involves a high-humidity occupancy (kitchen, laundry, pool, laboratory, or similar)
- Vapor management approach has been identified as a design challenge for this project's climate zone

4.3 Thermal Performance

- Project requires wall assembly R-values meeting or exceeding current energy code prescriptive requirements
- Project is using the energy code performance path and requires demonstrated whole-assembly thermal performance
- Project is in Climate Zones 4–8 where continuous insulation requirements and thermal bridging mitigation are most demanding
- Project owner has specified reduced HVAC sizing as a design goal: requiring envelope performance that reduces peak loads
- Project involves a building type where thermal comfort complaints are common (large open floor plates, high window-to-wall ratio, or significant glazing)

4.4 Durability & Lifecycle

- Project owner has a long-term hold strategy: building performance over 20+ years is a priority
- Project involves a building type where wall assembly replacement or major maintenance would be disruptive or costly
- Project is in an environment where pest resistance is a material consideration
- Project owner or developer has lifecycle cost requirements that include long-term maintenance and operational costs
- Project involves materials specifications that consider end-of-life recyclability or low environmental impact

PART 5: INSTALLATION & PROJECT LOGISTICS

This section assesses whether the project's logistics and team are positioned to support the installation of the Bio Fiber system.

5.1 Timeline

- Construction start is 60 or more days away (recommended for full system specification and documentation)
- Construction start is 30–60 days away (possible: contact us immediately to assess feasibility)
- Construction start is less than 30 days away (may be challenging: contact us to discuss)
- Timeline is flexible: project is in early planning and no hard start date is set
- Project involves a phased timeline: some scopes can be prioritized for earlier integration

5.2 Team Readiness

- General contractor or construction manager is open to reviewing alternative wall assembly systems
- Framing or envelope subcontractor has been engaged and is available for pre-construction coordination
- Project team has experience installing performance-based or integrated wall assembly systems
- Project team is willing to participate in a pre-construction review with the Bio Fiber team
- Site superintendent or project manager is available for installation coordination support

5.3 Geographic Location

- Project is located in Washington State or the Pacific Northwest
- Project is located in another western U.S. state
- Project is located in the Northeast or Mid-Atlantic
- Project is located in the Midwest
- Project is located in the Southeast
- Project is located outside the continental United States

Note: Bio Fiber is based in Seattle, Washington, and currently focused on the Pacific Northwest and western U.S. markets. Projects in other regions are assessed on a case-by-case basis for logistics feasibility. Contact us to discuss your location.

5.4 Budget Considerations

- Wall assembly budget has been established and is based on a conventional multi-layer assembly
- Wall assembly budget is flexible: total installed cost is more important than individual material cost
- Project has a value engineering process that evaluates total system cost, including labor and coordination
- Project team understands that layer consolidation can offset material cost differences through reduced labor and trade coordination
- Project has sustainability-related budget provisions: green building premium, ESG allocation, or above-code performance budget

PART 6: RETROFIT-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

Complete this section only if your project involves a retrofit, renovation, or addition to an existing building. Skip to Part 7 if your project is new construction only.

6.1 Existing Building Conditions

- Existing wall assembly has been documented: we know what is currently in the wall
- Existing wall assembly has known performance issues: moisture, mold, air leakage, or thermal underperformance
- Existing structural system is in good condition and does not require replacement
- Wall cavity depth is sufficient to accept hemp fiber insulation without significant framing modification
- Building is occupied during renovation: installation must accommodate occupied conditions
- Building is unoccupied or partially occupied: phased installation is feasible

6.2 Retrofit Scope

- Retrofit scope includes full exterior wall assembly replacement
- Retrofit scope includes insulation upgrade only: framing and sheathing are retained
- Retrofit scope includes air barrier improvement as a primary performance goal
- Retrofit scope is driven by energy code compliance for a change of occupancy or significant renovation
- Retrofit scope is driven by moisture or mold remediation
- Retrofit scope involves a landmark or historic building with material specification constraints

SCORING GUIDE & NEXT STEPS

There is no single pass/fail threshold for this checklist. The goal is honest self-assessment, not a score. Use the following guidance to interpret your results.

STRONG FIT INDICATORS

Your project is likely a strong candidate for the Bio Fiber system if you can check most of the following:

- Above-grade exterior wall assembly is in scope
- Project is at schematic design or design development stage: wall assembly not yet committed
- Project is subject to the 2018 IECC or newer, or is in Washington State or California
- One or more compliance challenges are identified in Part 3.2
- Project timeline allows 60 or more days before construction starts
- Design team is available and open to reviewing alternative assembly approaches
- Project owner has long-term performance, sustainability, or lifecycle cost goals

If most of these apply: Submit a project review. Our team will confirm fit, provide relevant technical documentation, and outline next steps. [biofiberindustries.com/construction-system]

PARTIAL FIT INDICATORS

Your project may be a fit with additional coordination if:

- Wall assembly has been specified but is in value engineering: an alternative approach requires design team review and timeline adjustment
- Construction start is within 30–60 days: tight but potentially feasible depending on scope
- Project is in a region outside the Pacific Northwest: logistics assessment required
- Project is a retrofit where existing conditions need to be confirmed before system fit can be determined
- Documentation requirements are complex: fire ratings, LEED, or federal program compliance needs confirmation

If these apply: Contact us to discuss your specific situation before submitting a full project review. A brief conversation can quickly clarify feasibility. [(206) 697-7831] [info@biofiberindustries.com]

NOT A FIT RIGHT NOW

Your project may not be a strong fit at this time if:

- Wall assembly is fully committed and under contract with another system: no value engineering window exists
- Construction is already underway and wall framing is complete
- Project does not involve above-grade exterior wall assemblies
- Project timeline does not allow sufficient lead time for specification and documentation

If this applies: Keep this checklist for your next project. Bio Fiber is an evolving system, and our documentation, geographic reach, and product availability are expanding. We'd welcome the opportunity to be considered earlier in the design process next time.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU SUBMIT

When you submit a project review at biofiberindustries.com/construction-system, here is what to expect:

Within 1–2 business days: Our team will review your project details and respond with an initial fit assessment confirming whether the Bio Fiber system is applicable to your project type, stage, and compliance environment.

If fit is confirmed: We will provide relevant technical documentation, spec sheets, assembly configurations, and compliance pathway information specific to your project type and jurisdiction.

Next step options after fit confirmation:

- Download the full System Spec Sheet from the Resources Library
- Schedule a technical consultation with the Bio Fiber team
- Request installation documentation for pre-construction coordination

All project reviews are confidential. We do not share project information with third parties.

CONTACT & RESOURCES

Submit a Project Review biofiberindustries.com/construction-system

Resources Library biofiberindustries.com/resources

Schedule a Call biofiberindustries.com

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Bio Fiber Industries is a social purpose corporation based in Seattle, Washington, building better buildings with American-made industrial hemp. The construction system is one application of a broader materials innovation mission designed for the professionals who are responsible for making buildings perform.

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