

Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is energy that comes from resources that can be replaced at the same rate in which the resource is used.

Solar Energy



Solar energy is the light and heat that comes from the sun.

The sun's energy can be harnessed to create electricity, to make hot water or steam, or to heat the inside of a building.

Wind Energy



Wind energy is power that is generated directly from the wind. The wind's energy can be harnessed to create electricity or to do other work, like milling or pumping.

Water Energy



Water energy is the power created from moving water. Water's energy can be captured from the movement of rivers using hydroelectric dams, waves, or tides to create electricity.

Geothermal Energy



Geothermal energy is power created from heat inside the Earth. The energy can be captured through geothermal power plants or heat pumps to create electricity or heat water or buildings.

Biomass Energy



Biomass energy is power produced from plants and animals. This energy can produce electricity and be converted into biofuels like biodiesel, biogas, and ethanol.

Nonrenewable Energy

Nonrenewable energy is energy that comes from resources that take longer than a person's lifespan to be replaced.

Coal



Coal is a rock that contains energy stored by plants that lived hundreds of millions of years ago. Coal is used as fuel to generate electric power.

Oil



Oil is a liquid fossil fuel formed millions of years ago when living organic matter died and was buried before it could decompose. It is extracted from the ground and used for fuel and to generate electricity.

Natural Gas



Natural gas is a hydrocarbon gas mixture which originated from microscopic plants and animals that lived millions of years ago. It is found deep in the earth and is used for electricity, heat, and fuel.

Nuclear Fuel



Nuclear fuel is a material (typically uranium from the ground that is processed) used in nuclear power stations to produce heat to power turbines and generate electricity.