



Alternative Energy

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Alternative energy is necessary for people in the world because the energy we use now, fossil fuels, are polluting the planet. Two types of alternative energies are solar energy and biomass/biofuel energy. With these two alternative energies our planet will be cleaner and more pleasant. Of these two types of energies, solar would be better for Marlborough.

Biofuel is “liquid fuels and blending components produced from biomass (plant) feedstocks, used primarily for transportation.” Biomass is “any organic material which is available on a renewable basis including agricultural crops and agricultural wastes and residues, wood and wood wastes and residues, animal wastes, municipal wastes and aquatic plants.” Biomass and biofuel use natural foods and waste products to make fuel. Using dried manure has been used by people all around the world throughout history. People that first came to America and had to make food by fire probably used the manure of their animals to help start

the fire. Using biomass fuel is not a new idea and has worked well throughout history. Vegetable oil is a biofuel. It is made from living things, in this case vegetables, and can be used to power vehicles. Another alternative energy is solar.

Solar energy is “the radiant energy of the sun, which can be converted into other forms of energy, such as heat or electricity.” Solar energy uses the sun’s rays to make heat and electricity. In an article from Scholastic News called “Light Flight” a British-made plane called Zephyr went airborne for fourteen days and twenty-one minutes on solar energy. The plane used rechargeable batteries to store energy so it could fly at night. “It...collects...energy and stores it in the plane’s rechargeable batteries. This stored energy allows the plane to fly after the sun goes down.” Solar powered vehicles like Zephyr can be used in the future because solar powered vehicles don’t pollute the air unlike other kinds of fuels. Marlborough would have a better time using solar energy rather than biomass/biofuel.

Solar energy could be better for Marlborough than the fuel we use. Solar energy would be better for Marlborough because solar energy can provide what energy is needed for Marlborough. We have the space for solar panels and rechargeable batteries. Solar energy is easy to use because there is always sun and solar energy doesn’t pollute. Solar could be better than biomass and biofuel because biomass and biofuel require more work than putting up solar panels and letting the sun do all the work. For biomass you need to collect methane from animal manure and convert it into fuel. You also need a lot more animals to make biomass effective for a whole city. That is why solar energy is better for Marlborough.

Using alternative energy helps the environment. The two types of alternative energies that were mentioned in the essay are good for different places. Biomass and biofuel are good for places with many animals, plants, and open areas. Solar energy is good for places with lots of sun and large roofs. Marlborough would be cleaner and greener with solar energy.

Bibliography

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