

The Sun Over Marlborough by Sarah Saether

There are many different types of alternative energy. The kind most of us use in Marlborough is gas, fossil fuel that is very efficient and accessible but it hurts the environment. The best way to fix that problem is to use alternative energies in Marlborough. Two types of alternative energies are solar and biomass. Which one would be the best one to use in Marlborough?

Solar energy is a very important type of energy. What is it exactly? Solar energy is energy taken from the sun's rays and converted into energy we can use. Solar energy is clean, efficient energy we can use to power Marlborough. A newly invented solar battery is small and can be brought with you to "...power small electronic devices...The energy is stored in a solar battery, which can power a smart phone via USB..." USB technology is very common, so are smart phones and other small, electronic devices. People could use solar energy to power their electronics. Solar energy can also be used to power cars. Some students in Canada made a car that uses gas and solar power. Solar energy can also replace gasoline and fossil fuels in our cars. The students in Canada "...built a car that can go 2,564 miles on one gallon of gas!" Solar energy is a great alternative energy; another great alternative energy is biomass energy.

Biomass energy is energy made from plants. One plant that is a huge biomass energy contributor is algae. Algae are found naturally in swamps across North America and can be farmed for its great energy properties. Some scientists made a plane that used algae for half of its energy source. This plane "...flew for about two hours and rose more than 40,000 feet above the Gulf of Mexico..." One really great factor to using algae as energy is that it is not food for humans. That is good because if it was farmed for food and farmed for energy, it would take a huge toll on the algae farmed for food. Those are some examples showing how we could use biomass energy. Biomass and solar are both clean, more efficient alternative energies, but which one should Marlborough use?

The best energy for Marlborough, out of solar and biomass, would probably be solar. Why solar energy? This is because Marlborough doesn't have a lot of algae but it has a lot of sun light. Also, paying for people to farm algae would take away money from taxes that would be used towards our schools and hospitals. Another reason is that algae, unlike sunlight, are not unlimited. Also, if

we just take algae from swamps that might really mess up the ecosystem because some animals rely on algae to survive. One last reason is that solar energy can be used to power cars, algae cannot. That is why solar energy is the best possible clean alternative energy for Marlborough.

Alternative energy is clean, reliable, safe, and economical. There are many different types of alternative energies other than solar and biomass. Some of them are nuclear, wind, and water. Those were just some of the reasons Marlborough should switch to alternative fuels, such as solar.

Bibliography

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