

Alternative energy and the alberta economy

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What are the practical arguments in favor of adopting wind, solar, nuclear and other forms of generating electrical power for Alberta, instead of continuing to burn fossil fuels such as oil, gas coal?

Renewability: This is mainly because these alternative sources of energy are derived from natural sources, which are recyclable and are capable of continuously producing the energy requirements of the region (Scheid, 2014). This makes them sustainable as opposed to fossil fuels, which might run out at a certain point.

Environment friendly: There has been a growing problem of global warming, which comes as a result of pollution from emissions generated when burning fossil fuels. Many of these alternative sources of energy do not have the polluting effects as they do not produce any harmful gases or waste into the atmosphere. This is the fundamental reason why they are considered to be green sources of energy (All-recycling-facts. com, 2014).

Cost effective: The plants utilized in the production of these sources of energy commonly require less management as compared to the plants that burn fossil fuels (Brown Paper Bag, 2014). This is essential in reducing the operational costs of producing and supplying energy to the region, a factor that makes them more cost effective than the fossil fuels.

Reducing dependency on fossil fuels: As the sources of fossil fuels continue to diminish, there is an increased need to reduce the dependency on them as the main source of energy. The application of alternative energy sources presents an opportunity to reduce this dependency (All-recycling-facts. com, 2014).

2. What are the political and economic arguments opposed to using anything other than fossil fuels to generate electrical power?

Reliability: Many of the alternative sources of energy depend on factors that cannot be controlled by humans, and that are natural, for example, solar depends on the sun and on wind on wind, while hydro power depends on rain to fill dams (Brown Paper Bag, 2014). This makes it impossible to predict the sources' dependency in supplying a constant energy should these factors become unavailable or reduced. This makes them inconsistent and unpredictable.

Easy production: The setting of fossil fuel plants remains relatively easy and the element of technological limitations has little effects (Scheid, 2014). This enables these energy sources to empower economic development because of the ease in setting up energy plants.

Generation of large quantities: The production capacity for energy plants using fossil fuels commonly has a large output. The alternative sources of energy require stepping up to reach some desired levels for industrial use. This makes fossil fuels necessary for industrial development (Alternative Energy Geek, 2014).

Cost of change: There has been a long history of usage of fossils in providing sufficient sources of energy. The costs that is likely to be incurred for a complete transition to alternative sources of energy can be dubious and significantly great. The usage of fossils must, therefore, be continued until a cost effective way of moving into the use of other sources is developed (Gemma, 2014).

3. If you were just elected as Alberta's premier, and you firmly believed in

adopting alternative ways of generating electrical power, without using fossil fuels, how would you go about “ selling” the ideas to the people of Alberta and its business community?

There has been a constant debate on the rising and ever fluctuating prices of fossil fuels. Overdependence on these fuels should be changed to adopt the utilization of the more favorable renewable sources of energy. These alternative sources have minimal negative effects on the environment as compared to the fossil fuels, which are currently used. Those against the idea of fully adopting alternative energy sources should face the fact that the non-renewable ones are indeed harmful to the environment and continue to contribute to the growing problems of global warming (Alternative Energy Sources, 2014). Despite the technology of renewable energy being relatively new, the transition to it from non-renewable energy sources remains inevitable regardless of the advantages of the fossil fuels.

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