

## Natural Resources Demonstration Vocabulary

**Biomass:** Organic matter, like wood, used as a fuel, for the generation of electricity. Biomass is a renewable resource.

**Clean energy** refers to resources that do not increase greenhouse gases or contribute to environmental destruction.

**Climate Change:** An increase in greenhouse gases that enhance the heat trapping capability of the earth's atmosphere.

**Coal:** A dense sedimentary rock, usually black, used primarily as fuel in steam-electric power generation, with substantial quantities used for heat and power applications in manufacturing. Coal is not a renewable resource.

**Electricity** is the dynamic release of energy stored in fuel to supply current for human use.

**Energy** power derived from the utilization of resources to provide light and heat or to work machines.

**Hydroelectric energy:** Using the motive power of water to generate electricity. Water is a renewable resource.

**Industrial revolution:** The rapid development of industry marked by the general introduction of power driven machinery. In the US it marks the beginning of increased fossil fuels that are impacting climate change.

**Natural Gas:** A mixture of hydrocarbon gases that occurs naturally beneath the Earth's surface, often with or near petroleum deposits. It is used as a fuel and in making organic compounds. Natural gas is not a renewable resource.

**Natural resources:** The raw materials or fuel we use in our physical environment to meet our energy needs and wants.

**Nonrenewable resources:** Fuels that exist in finite or limited amounts. No additional amounts of them will ever be available to us- at least not for millions of years.

**Nuclear Power:** Energy generated through the fission process of atoms. The fuel used for nuclear fission is uranium. Uranium is not a renewable resource.

**Oil:** A naturally occurring, unrefined petroleum product composed of hydrocarbon deposits and other organic materials. Refined it produces usable products such as gasoline, diesel and various forms of petrochemicals. Oil is not a renewable resource.

**People Power:** any form of human-powered transportation – walking, cycling, using a wheelchair, in-line skating or skateboarding. This may include walking to the bus stop, or cycling to school/work. People power is a renewable resource.

**Power generation** is the process in which we transform natural resources into usable energy

**Renewable resources** fuel that can be replenished through natural and/or human processes.

**Solar power** A form of energy obtained by harnessing the radiant energy emitted by the sun. Solar power is a renewable resource.

**Sustainable yield:** The maximum rate at which people can use a renewable resource without reducing the ability of the resource to renew itself.

**Transmission:** The movement of electrical energy from its generation source.

**Wind power:** A form of energy conversion in which turbines convert the kinetic energy of wind into mechanical or electrical energy that can be used for power. Wind energy is a renewable resource.