

A word about Alternative Energy

There are many different forms in which alternative energy is available. Solar power is always the obvious choice using photovoltaic cells and whereas these were at one time too costly to consider, that is no longer the case. There aren't any areas where solar power cannot be utilised including: generating electricity and hot water plus of course it has the added benefit of being pollution free. Nevertheless, for us to be able to inexpensively make use of the sun's energy, we need to subject ourselves to more work than ever. For the time being, the resource is a little too conditional as storage batteries are needed to be used as backups in the evenings and on inclement days.

Wind energy has become the most-invested-in (by private investors and governments together) alternative energy source for the time being. Using the wind's kinetic energy once its motion have been captured can greatly contribute to conversion of mechanical or electrical energy and this can be done through the development of "wind farms" which is the placement of great arrays of triple-bladed windmills all over the place.

We have used windmills for a number of centuries but it is only recently that they have been converted to produce electricity on an industrial scale. With the growing developments in our technology and everything that we use, it is so unlikely for us not to use the more sophisticated modern wind turbines as an alternative to the old theme being used. The only downside to this form of power is when the wind isn't blowing, you cannot produce power. Of course, the power we need can come from other sources when this happens so currently we cannot rely completely on wind power even if we had sufficient farms to cater for our needs.

Hydroelectric energy is available as a source of alternative energy, and it can generate a substantial amount of power. The concept of hydroelectricity is simple - using vast amounts of water and gravity to turn electricity producing turbines.

Building of dams is often the most common and effective means of controlling the flow of water to sufficiently provide the source in generating the needed power. Building a dam to store and control water's potential and kinetic energy takes quite a lot of work, and operating one is complex as well, and conservationists grow concerned that it is creating environmental problems. If you are not trying to look after a large town or city, it probably won't be necessary to employ a large dam as other sources are available. Some businesses and communities use a run-of-the-river hydroelectric converter which is suitable for their power needs but without the problems associated with large dams.

Probably the most underrated and under-appreciated form of alternative energy is geothermal energy, which is simply the naturally-occurring energy produced by the heating of artesian waters that are just below the earth's crust. The heat from the earth's core gets taken up by the water. Methods such as the "dry steam" power plants, "flash" power plants, and "binary" power plants are some of the various methods used to draw up water for harnessing geothermal energy. Steam is essentially gathered and for this reason, hot water should be drawn up. The Geysers, approximately 100 miles north of San Francisco, is probably the best-known of all geothermal power fields - it's an example of a dry stream plant.

About the Author

Forget everything you thought you knew about Alternative energy. This website [Alternative energy](#) shatters all the current myths and gives it to you straight.

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