TRANSITION TO CLEAN ENERGY

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Introduction

For my project, I am proposing that energy systems and plants in Northeast Arkansas be transitioned to employ renewable energies such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric in order to help combat climate change. Phasing out or limiting the use of fossil fuels will not only curb emissions levels for our region but create a diverse, profitable energy economy that is safer for the environment. Northeast Arkansas would greatly benefit from transitioning to the use of renewable energy sources.

U.S. Energy Consumption (2015): 97.7 Quadrillion Btu 16.0% Coal 8.6% Nuclear 29.1% Natural Gas 9.8% Renewables

36.3% Petroleum

Works Cited

"Understand Climate Change." *Global Change. Gov*U.S. Global Change Research Program,
www.globalchange.gov/climate-change.

"Clean Energy." *Energy.Gov*, U.S. Department of Energy, <u>www.energy.gov/science-innovation/clean-energy</u>

Jackson, Randal. "The Effects of Climate Change." Climate Change: Vital Signs of the Planet, NASA, climate.nasa.gov/effects.

Methods

Research into the causes and effects of climate change was first done to understand the scope of the issue and how our planet is being affected by the emissions of fossil fuels. Then I looked further into the technologies used to produce clean energy to understand how they work and how they are preferable over burning fossil fuels, as well as how much they would cost to implement.

Results

The effects of climate change can be slowed and prevented through the transition to clean energy sources that provide efficient energy without adverse effects. Research studies have identified the connected causes and effects that contribute to the changing of Earth's climate, and in response, clean energy technologies have been invented and improved. Clean energy also comes with economic benefits as it is much more cost-efficient. They are much better for the environment and our economies, and over time should replace the use of fossil fuels.