

## Natural Resources Line of Inquiry

### Lesson 2

#### Barriers to Using Renewable Energy - CCRS Level C

Renewable energy is important, but it's not easy to use on a big scale. One problem is that it costs more than regular fuels. Regular fuels have been used for a long time, so people have figured out how to make them cheaper. Natural gas and coal are the cheapest ways to make electricity, while water and wind are the cheapest renewable options. But cost isn't the only thing to think about. We also need to think about how it affects the environment. If we put a price on the pollution from regular fuels, renewable energy might start to look better, even if it's still more expensive.

Another problem is what people think about renewable energy. The government decides what kind of energy to use, but they also listen to what the public wants. Some people really like solar energy, but others don't like nuclear energy. When something bad happens, like the Fukushima nuclear disaster, people's opinions can change. After that happened, many countries decided to stop using nuclear power. So what people think is important when we choose our energy sources.

In conclusion, renewable energy has some challenges that make it hard to use everywhere. It costs more than regular fuels, but if we think about the pollution they cause, renewable energy might be a better choice. And what people think about different types of energy also matters when we make decisions.

Adapted from pages 304-305 of:

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