

Fossil Fuel Electricity Production

Fossil fuel electricity production refers to the production of electricity from fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas. A fossil fuel power plant burns carbon fuels that include oil and coal to generate steam that drives big turbines that in turn, produce electricity. This reliable source of power has been adopted worldwide despite its tendency to pollute heavily (Hubbert, 1956).



Brief history

In the fossil fuel family, coal is the most plentiful and it is the fossil fuel we've been using the longest to generate energy. History shows that coal has been used since the time of the caveman when it was used for heating. It was also used in the second and third

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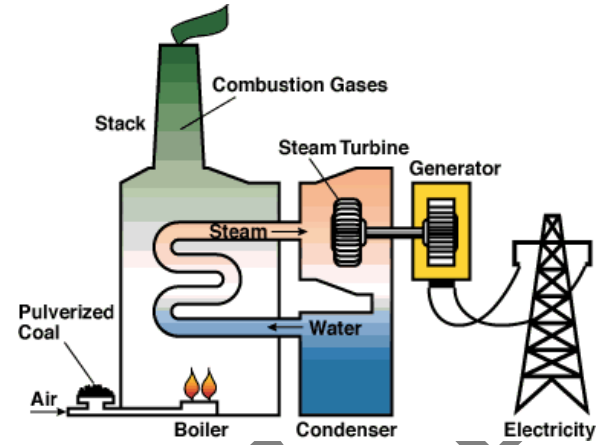


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How it works

For electricity to be produced from fossil fuels, there is a specific process that takes place. The fossil fuel power plant is fitted with a system that provides the power. In the

system, there are several chambers or sections that perform different roles in the production of electricity, for instance, the system is fitted with a combustion chamber, turbine chamber, exhaust stack, compressor as well as an electric generator. The energy released from burning fossil fuels, boils water that turns into steam, which is at a much higher pressure.



The pressure of the generated steam is great enough to rotate a series of turbines. The steam then cools down and turns into liquid water to be heated again. As a result, the long shaft that is attached to the turbine turns the generator that produces the electricity (Sims & Gregory, 2003).

Its current applications

This method of producing electricity has been adopted in many countries and worldwide, contributes a significant percentage of the electricity produced. This method is used heavily in industry, academic institutions, government agencies and homes to generate electricity. The most commonly used fossils include; coal, natural gas, and oil (Walker, 2003).



Its environmental impact

When fossil fuels are burned to generate electricity, gases are released into the air. These gases are harmful to living things as well as the environment and are considered to be the main cause



of global warming. Furthermore, the fossil fuels are not pure but instead contain other elements and

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In conclusion, the use of fossil fuels in electricity production is widely practiced compared to other sources because it is cheap, reliable, available and affordable to many countries. However, the use of fossil fuels will decrease shortly due to their availability and negative impacts on the environment.

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. Which
2. Why was coal considered to be a better production of energy than wood?
3. Describe
4. What
5. What does the burning of coal release that contributes to the formation of acid rain?
6. What greenhouse gases are associated with the burning of fossil fuels?
7. Why
8. In your opinion, what needs to be done for humans to meet their energy demands without sacrificing the environment? Be specific in your plan and make sure you have some kind of actionable method to achieve it.
9. Compose

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References

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