

Submission:

Firstly, wind power is inherently one of the cleanest sources of power available. It does not contribute to global warming, nor does it produce any form of harmful waste. This is through not only a reduction in the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) produced but also of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) which raises the acidity of the moisture in the air causing “acid rain”. Wind turbines also do not require the use of non-renewable fuels such as coal, as wind energy is generated by earth heating and cooling each day due to the sun. Wind farms require very small amounts of land and can be integrated into farm land, and you can see that they are an extremely environmentally friendly energy source.

Wind power is also a relatively cheap source of energy. Wind power already costs about the same as conventional fossil fuel power stations and pretty soon will be cheaper as the cost of these fuels continues to rise. Wind farms also create jobs. The many offshore engineering jobs currently provided by the gas and oil industries could be replaced by wind farms, as well as providing more jobs all round. They could even give the tourism industry a boost, as many people find wind turbines interesting enough to visit, and wind farms are encouraged to allow visitor access, including a visitor center and viewing platforms.

Wind power works and works well. There are currently around 68,000 wind turbines in operation around the world, and Denmark gets 20% of all its energy from wind farms. With so many benefits and no obvious disadvantages, it's a wonder we haven't already made the switch to wind power. The initial investment may be pretty steep, but this will be recovered over time with the huge savings on heating and energy bills you will make.

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