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ATOC 3500
April, 27, 2010

Energy and Emissions

Forms of Energy

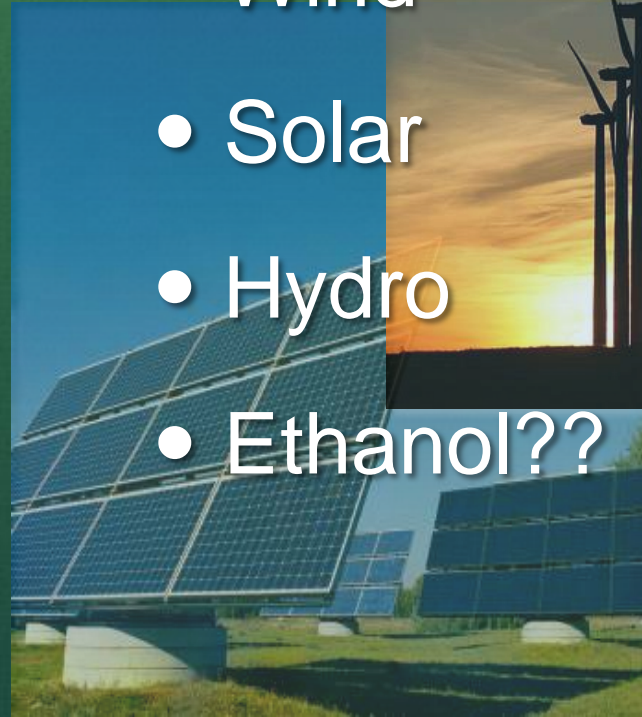
Traditional

- Coal
- Methane
- Nuclear
- Oil

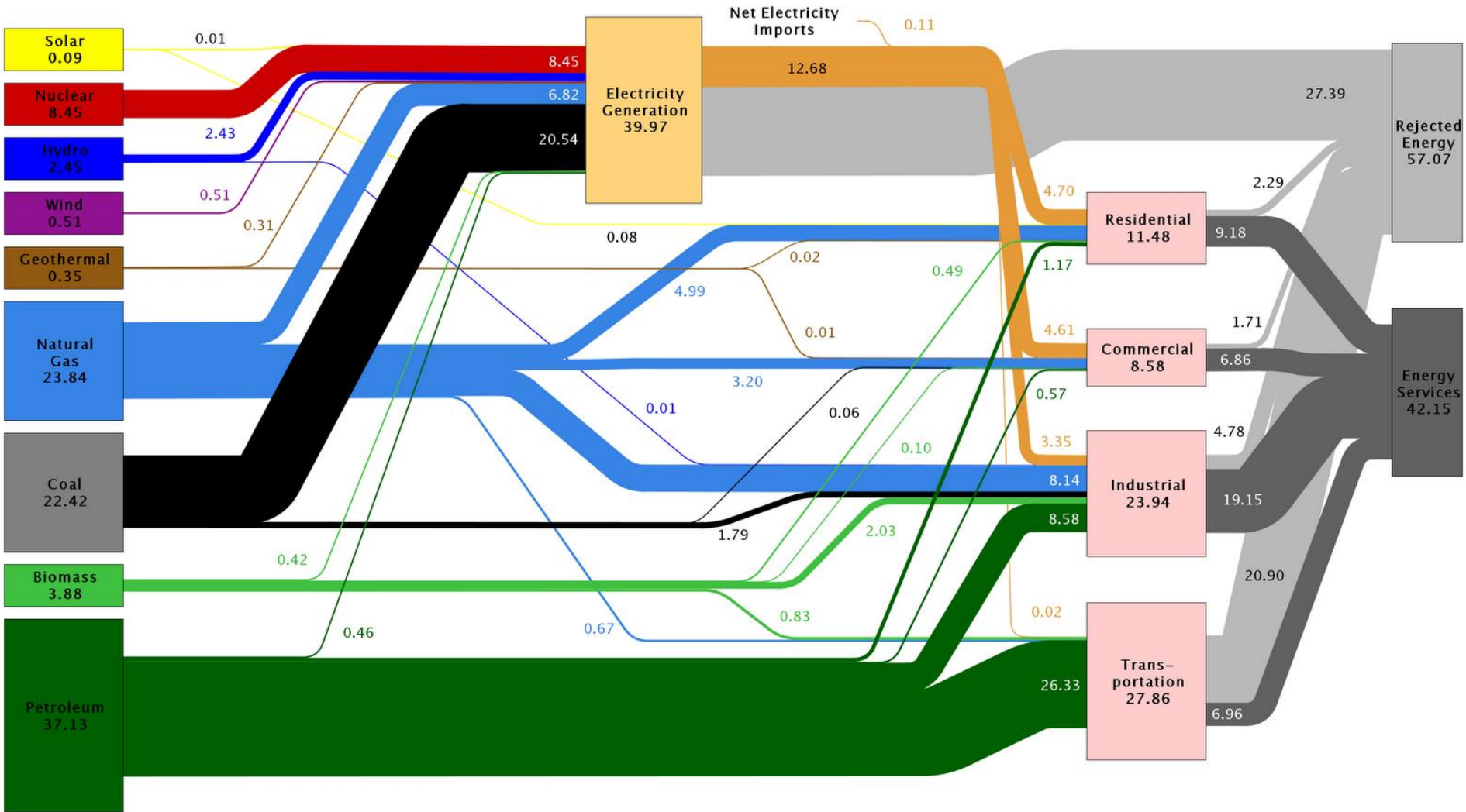


Renewable

- Wind
- Solar
- Hydro
- Ethanol??



Estimated U.S. Energy Use in 2008: ~99.2 Quads



Source: LLNL 2009. Data is based on DOE/EIA-0384(2008), June 2009. If this information or a reproduction of it is used, credit must be given to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Department of Energy, under whose auspices the work was performed. Distributed electricity represents only retail electricity sales and does not include self-generation. EIA reports flows for non-thermal resources (i.e., hydro, wind and solar) in BTU-equivalent values by assuming a typical fossil fuel plant "heat rate." The efficiency of electricity production is calculated as the total retail electricity delivered divided by the primary energy input into electricity generation. End use efficiency is estimated as 80% for the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, and as 25% for the transportation sector. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. LLNL-MI-410527

Carbon Based Energy

Coal, Natural
Gas, Oil



Carbon Emissions

Table 5. U.S. Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Energy and Industry, 1990-2008
(Million Metric Tons Carbon Dioxide)

Fuel Type or Process	1990	1995	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Energy Consumption										
Petroleum.....	2,185.9	2,208.4	2,461.3	2,469.9	2,516.7	2,605.4	2,625.7	2,594.9	2,588.6	2,436.0
Coal.....	1,803.4	1,899.9	2,138.1	2,077.2	2,115.6	2,140.3	2,161.0	2,129.9	2,154.5	2,125.2
Natural Gas.....	1,024.7	1,183.7	1,240.6	1,229.5	1,194.6	1,195.4	1,176.1	1,157.1	1,231.7	1,241.8
Renewables ^a	6.1	10.2	10.4	13.0	11.7	11.4	11.5	11.8	11.6	11.6
Energy Subtotal	5,020.1	5,302.3	5,850.4	5,789.6	5,838.6	5,952.5	5,974.3	5,893.7	5,986.4	5,814.4
Nonfuel Use Emissions ^b	97.1	104.9	109.8	103.7	101.7	110.8	104.7	108.9	106.7	100.2
Nonfuel Use Sequestration ^c	252.7	286.6	308.2	296.0	292.1	315.4	305.1	301.9	293.7	264.2
Adjustments to Energy.....	-82.9	-63.1	-61.7	-38.2	-28.7	-44.6	-48.8	-70.9	-74.9	-79.0
Adjusted Energy Subtotal	4,937.2	5,239.1	5,788.7	5,751.4	5,809.9	5,907.9	5,925.5	5,822.8	5,911.5	5,735.5
Other Sources.....	85.1	102.3	97.8	97.7	98.9	102.0	103.5	106.0	105.6	103.8
Total	5,022.3	5,341.5	5,886.4	5,849.1	5,908.8	6,009.9	6,029.0	5,928.7	6,017.0	5,839.3

^aIncludes emissions from electricity generation using nonbiogenic municipal solid waste and geothermal energy.

^bEmissions from nonfuel uses are included in the energy subtotal above.

^cThe Btu value of carbon sequestered by nonfuel uses is subtracted from energy consumption before emissions are calculated.

Notes: Data in this table are revised from the data contained in the previous EIA report, *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2007*, DOE/EIA-0573(2007) (Washington, DC, December 2008). Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. Adjusted energy subtotal includes U.S. Territories but excludes international bunker fuels.

Source: EIA estimates.

Fossil Fuel Emission Levels Pounds per Billion Btu of Energy Input

Pollutant	Natural Gas	Oil	Coal
Carbon Dioxide	117,000	164,000	208,000
Carbon Monoxide	40	33	208
Nitrogen Oxides	92	448	457
Sulfur Dioxide	1	1,122	2,591
Particulates	7	84	2,744
Mercury	0.000	0.007	0.016

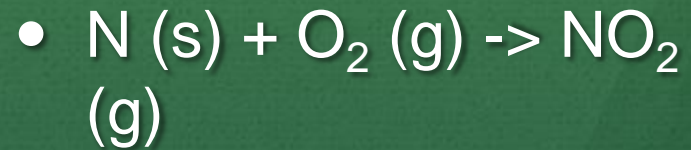
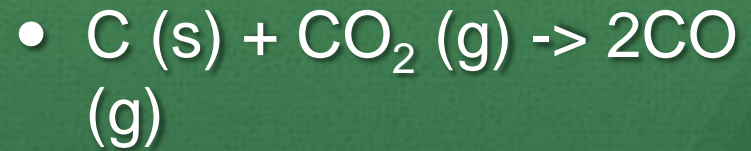


Coal is mined in anthracite, bituminous, sub-bituminous, and lignite forms. These forms all have different, but similar chemical composition.

SO_2 , NO_x , Particulates, Mercury

More Coal Emissions

- Incomplete combustion:
- Nitrogen also released from nitrogen present in coal.
- Also Sulfur is released, mainly from sulfur-rich coal from Appalachia



Methane

Methane, also known as natural gas.

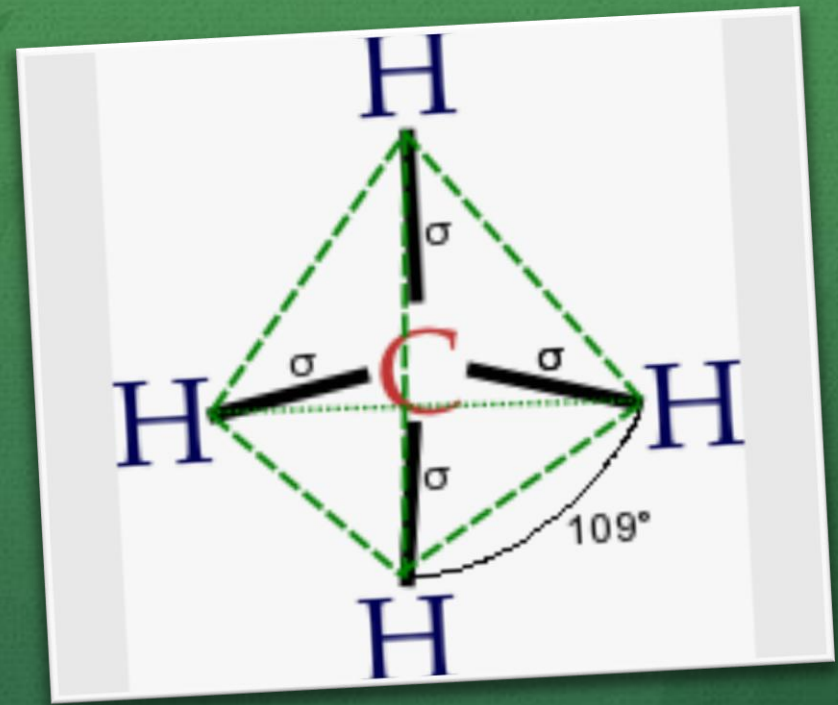
Net Chemical Equation:



Intermediate Mechanisms:



Natural gas is a mixture of hydrocarbons such as methane (CH_4 , 80%), ethane (C_2H_6 , 7%), propane (C_3H_8 , 6%), butane (C_4H_{10} , 4%), and pentane (C_5H_{12} , 3%). It also can include CO_2 , helium, hydrogen sulfide, and nitrogen.

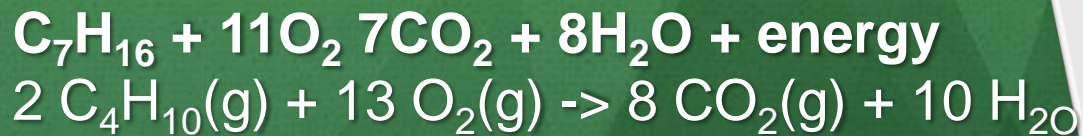


When combustion occurs, methane turns into CO_2 and H_2O . When released into the atmosphere as CH_4 , it is 20 more potent a greenhouse gas.

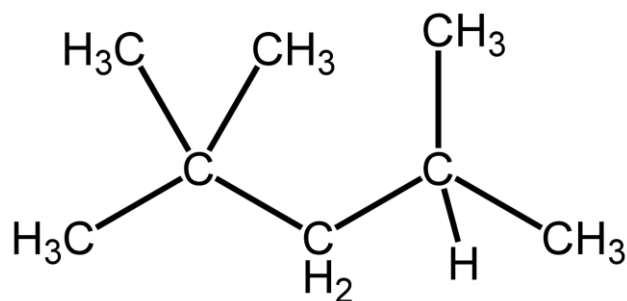
Due to incomplete combustion, CO is certainly produced from burning any hydrocarbon.

Hydrocarbons

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Gasoline can be a mix of hydrocarbons from C_6 mixes to C_{18} .



Gasoline is mixed with different octanes. For example, 87-octane gasoline would be 87% volume iso-octane (2, 2, 4-trimethylpentane) and 13% heptane.

Other Elements in Oil Combustion

As stated in previous slide, petroleum products, when combusted also produce CO, NO_x, SO₂, particulates, and trace amounts of mercury. We've learned that NO_x contributes to Ozone production and photochemical smog.

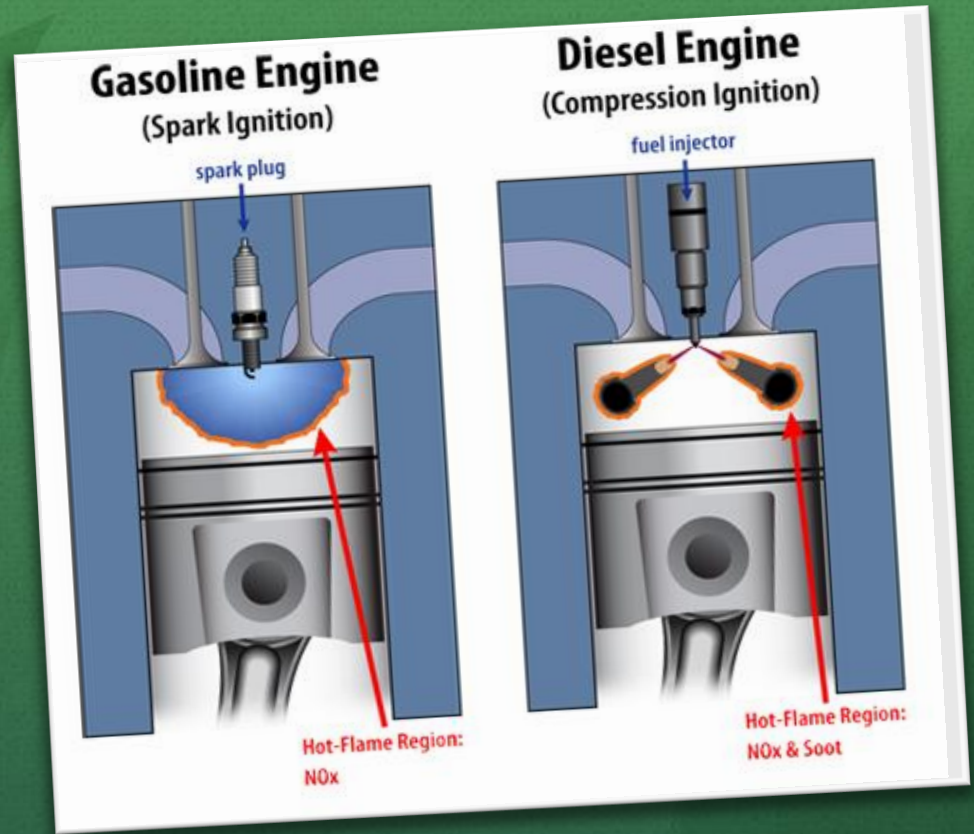
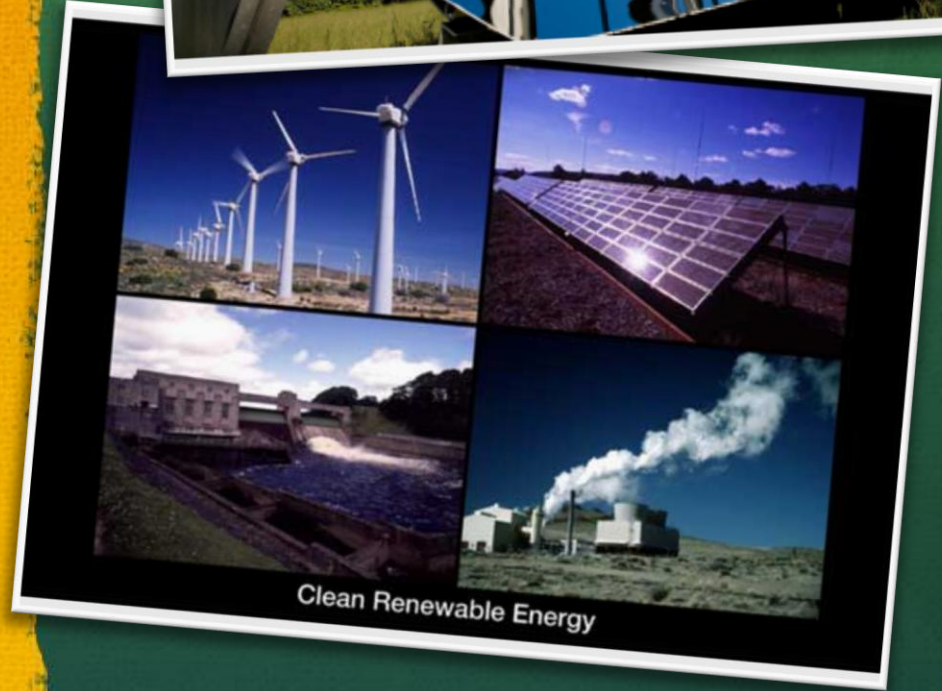


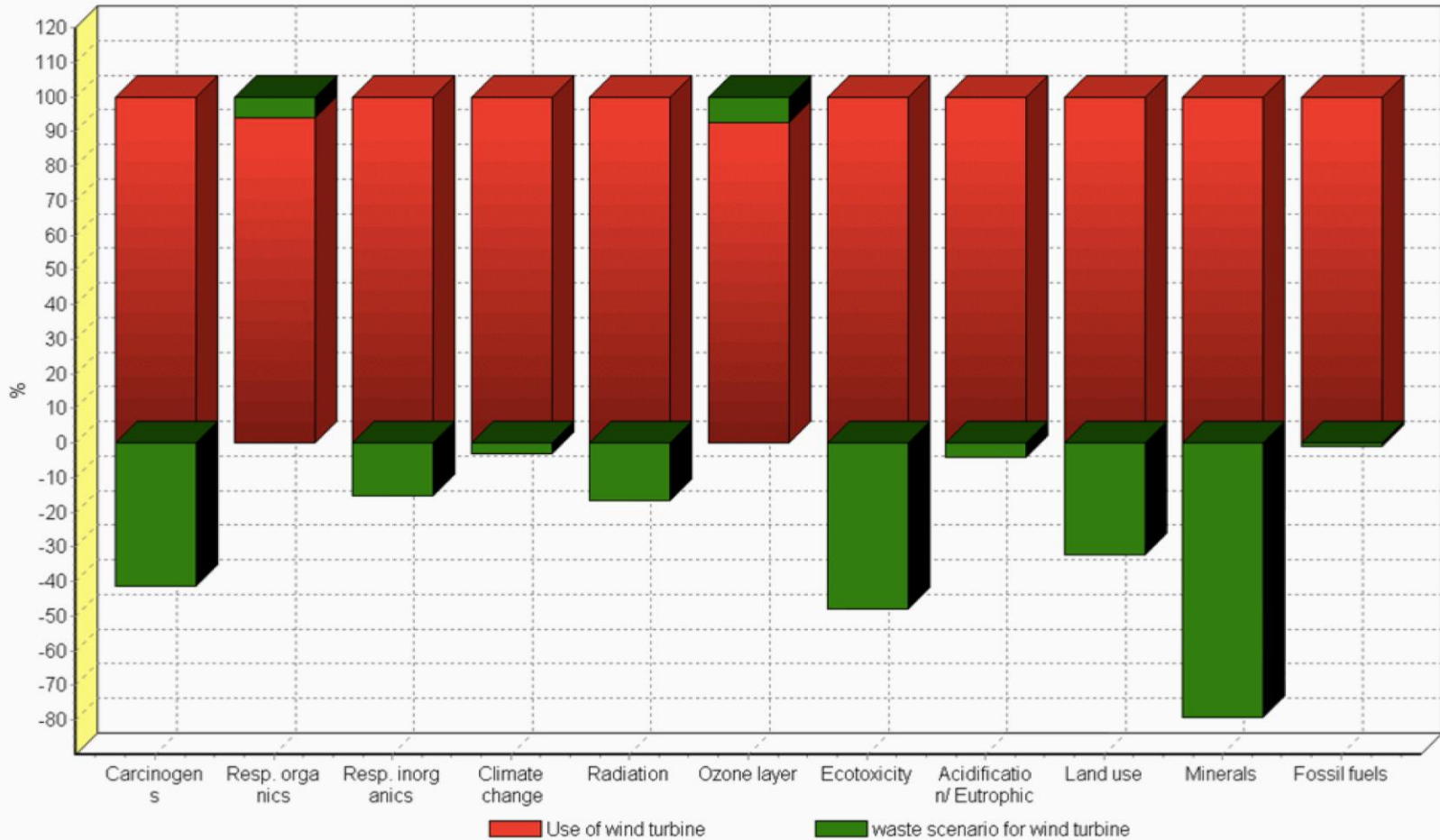
Table 2 Ash analysis of Huadian oil shale (mass%)

SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	CaO	MgO	TiO ₂	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O
52.9	17.74	6.65	14.77	2.99	0.55	0.89	1.27

Renewables

Wind,
Solar,
Hydro,
Geothermal





Analyzing 1 p life cycle 'LCA Vestas V90'; Method: Eco-indicator 99 (H) V2.03 / Europe EI 99 H/H / characterization

Wind Turbines

Cradle to Grave Lifecycle Analysis

Life Cycle Assessment for Wind Turbine

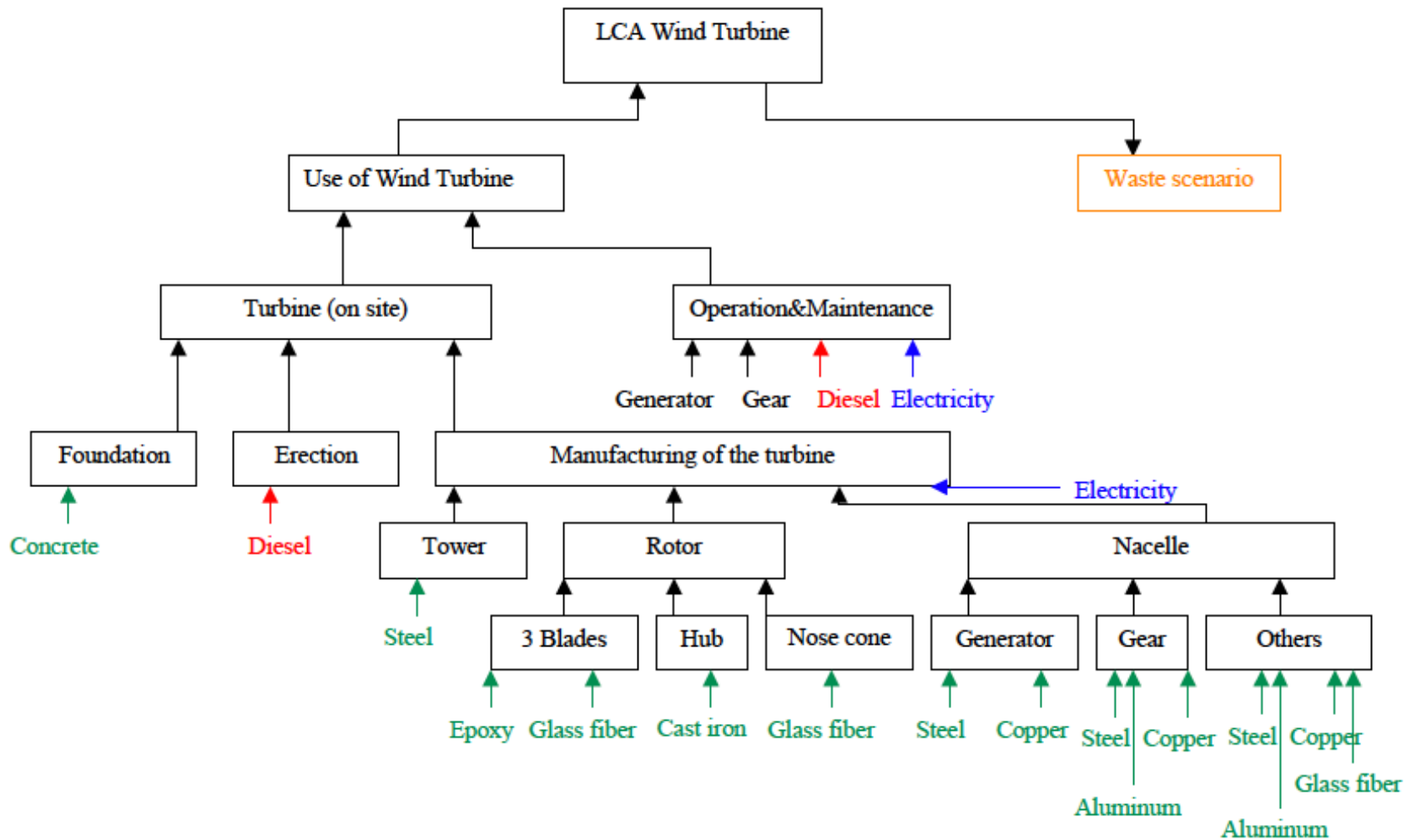


Figure 3. Model for wind turbine in SimaPro

Wind Turbines

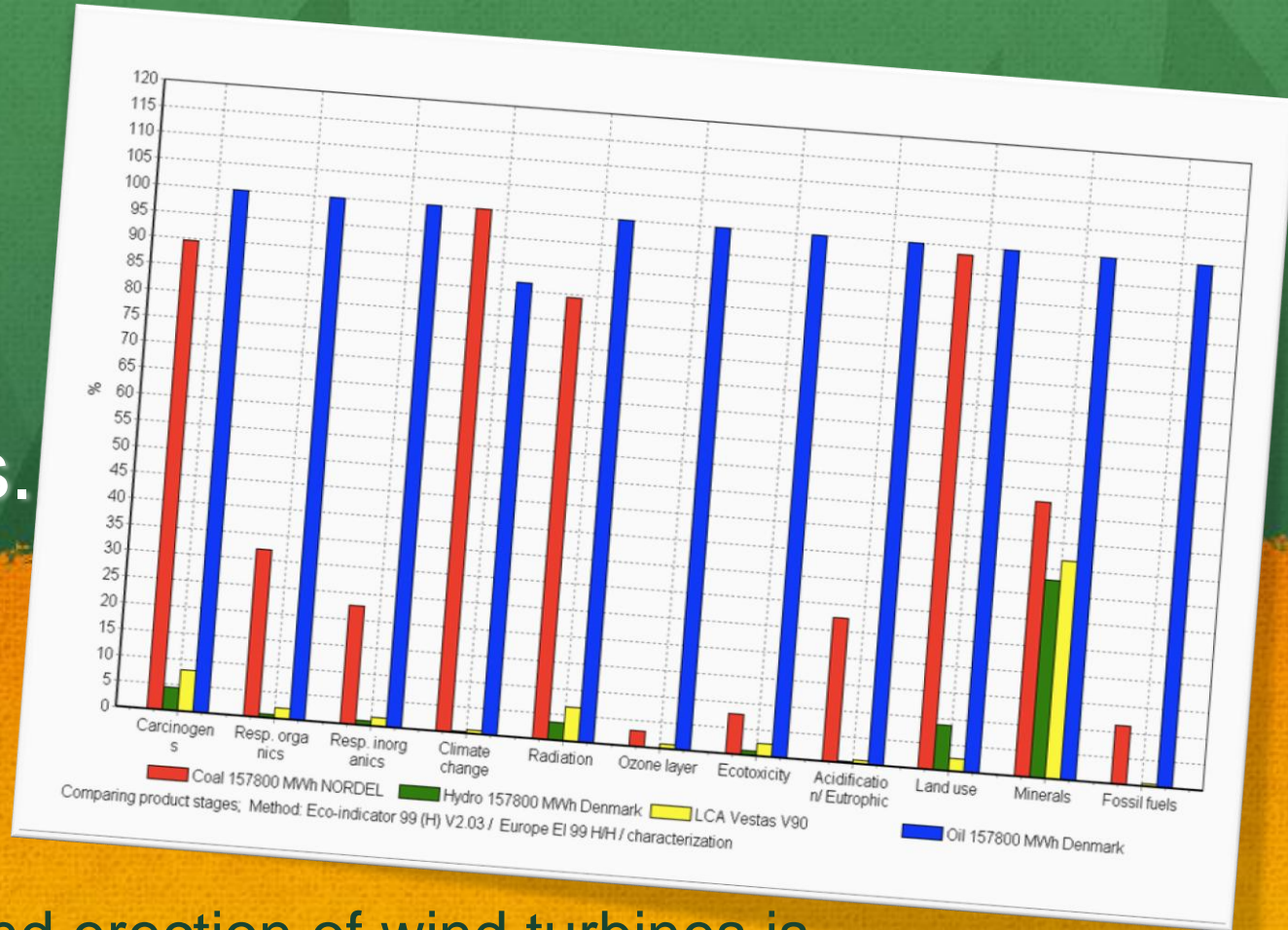
Cradle

- Total of 7405 MWh of electricity are needed
- Steel production
- Glass fibre, reinforced plastic
- Cast iron
- Copper
- Aluminum
- Concrete (on site)
- Transportation and erection (5382 kg diesel)

Grave

- Maintenance emits little, except from transportation
- 90% of steel and cast iron is recycled
- 90% of copper is recycled
- 100% of glass products are incinerated
- 100% concrete is land filled
- Transportation emissions

Difference in emissions and resource use with different energy sources.



If the production and erection of wind turbines is eventually powered by wind turbines, the net impact of new turbines will be next to negligible, especially when it comes to atmospheric effects.

Solar PV & Concentrated Solar

- Solar Photovoltaic Cells contain a good amount of harsh chemicals and minerals, but most of them don't reach the gaseous phase in their lifecycle.
- Concentrated Solar Panels are produced from covering a smooth surface, historically glass, with a silver or aluminum coating.



“In the best case scenario, one square meter of solar cells carries a burden of 75 kilograms of CO₂. In the worst case scenario, that becomes 314 kilograms of CO₂. With a solar insolation of 1,700 kWh/m²/yr an average household needs 8 to 10 square meters of solar panels, with a solar insolation of 900 kWh/m²/yr this becomes 16 to 20 square meters. Which means that the total CO₂ debt of a solar installation is 600 to 3,140 kilograms of CO₂ in sunny places, and 1,200 to 6,280 kilograms of CO₂ in less sunny regions. These numbers equate to 2 to 20 flights Brussels-Lissabon (up and down, per passenger).”

- Low Tech Magazine

Policy Recommendation

While I display obvious bias towards the implementation of a strong clean energy bill, I think the science clearly explains the reasoning behind a clean energy bill. Not only would it be stimulating economically, it would greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and local pollution.

As shown by the life cycle assessment for a wind turbine, once renewable energy is installed, the effect of all production, not only wind turbine production, would decrease. While there is not doubt that there are impacts of all energy forms, it seems that renewables would largely decrease such impacts.



Picture References

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