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Northern Powergrid Renewable Energy and Community Debates

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- Northern Powergrid is the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) for the North East of England, Yorkshire and northern Lincolnshire.
- We distribute electricity to 3.9 million homes and businesses.
- As a DNO we do not own the energy we distribute – we charge electricity suppliers for the use of lines and cables to move energy they purchase from generators to the customers they supply.
- This charge to suppliers represents around 10% of customer's bills.





Starter:

- What is renewable energy?
- What sources/ types of renewable energy exist?
- What are the positives and negatives of each renewable energy source?











Advantages: Wind is renewable and not dependant on fossil fuels.

Disadvantages: Wind farms can be noisy and spoil views. If there's no wind, they can't generate electricity.





Scenario

The local council aspires to be the first 'green' town and has received funding to invest heavily in renewable energy. The problem is, the council have decided on wind turbines without taking into consideration any of the local residents' feelings.





The community have
expressed their concerns
to the local council who
have agreed to have a
community meeting to
enable local residents to
present their thoughts on
the proposed plans.



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TASK:

In groups, you are going to be given the character of a local resident. You need to come up with where, if anywhere, you think the wind turbines should be placed in the town. Alternatively, you need to come up with other renewable energy options.





TASK:

By the end of the lesson, you need to have come up with an argument as to where the wind turbines should be placed and why. Every other group, including the local council, will have the opportunity to question your ideas – so be ready with your answers!





Resident 1

A Conservationist









Resident 3

A Business Owner







Resident 5

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A Homeowner











At the community group...

First, the local council will present the argument for the proposed plan first. Next, the other groups will put across their arguments. Everyone will be given an opportunity to ask questions - so listen carefully!





Next Steps

For homework you are going to develop your persuasive writing skills. Your task is to write a letter to the local council expressing your views regarding the proposal. You should write is as if you were a resident. Don't forget to make use of the techniques opposite:

Alliteration Facts Opinion Rhetorical question Emotive language Statistics The power of three





Well done!