

# Unit 05: Energy Resources

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s): **Generic Course, Environmental Science**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 3**  
Length: **6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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### [ESS3.A: Natural Resources](#) (pp. 191-192)

- [Resource availability has guided the development of human society. \(HS-ESS3-1\)](#)
- [All forms of energy production and other resource extraction have associated economic, social, environmental, and geopolitical costs and risks as well as benefits. New technologies and social regulations can change the balance of these factors. \(HS-ESS3-2\)](#)

### [ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems](#) (pp. 194-196)

- [The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them requires responsible management of natural resources. \(HS-ESS3-3\)](#)
- [Scientists and engineers can make major contributions by developing technologies that produce less pollution and waste and that preclude ecosystem degradation. \(HS-ESS3-4\)](#)

### [ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions](#) (pp. 206-208)

- [When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts. \(secondary to HS-ESS3-2\),\(secondary HS-ESS3-4\)](#)

SCI.9-12.HS-ESS3-3	Create a computational simulation to illustrate the relationships among the management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.
SCI.9-12.HS-ESS3-4	Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.
SCI.9-12.HS-ESS3-1	Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.
SCI.9-12.HS-ESS3-2	Evaluate competing design solutions for developing, managing, and utilizing energy and mineral resources based on cost-benefit ratios.
SCI.9-12.HS-ETS1-3	Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts.
SCI.9-12.HS-ETS1-2	Design a solution to a complex real-world problem by breaking it down into smaller, more manageable problems that can be solved through engineering.
SCI.9-12.HS-ETS1-1	Analyze a major global challenge to specify qualitative and quantitative criteria and constraints for solutions that account for societal needs and wants.
SCI.9-12.HS-LS2-7	Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.

**Essential Questions**

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Explain how humans meet the demands for energy throughout the planet.

Explain how the choice of fuels and our dependence on them has economic, environmental, and political consequences

**Content / Skills**

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Earth's surface processes affect and are affected by human activities. Humans depend on all of the planet's systems for a variety of resources, some of which are renewable or replaceable and some which are not. Natural hazards and other geologic events can significantly alter human populations and activities. Human activities, in turn, can contribute to the frequency, and intensity of some natural hazards.