



Middle School Curriculum Ideas

CMT Writing Prompt

Connecticut customers of the public electric utilities have a new option to buy renewable-source energy. As of fall 2005, more than 3000 customers have chosen these new options. Many towns in Connecticut have taken up the challenge to get 20 % of their electricity from renewable energy sources by the year 2010 ~ the **20% by 2010 Campaign**.

Background information can be found at <http://www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com> and http://www.smartpwr.org/20renewable_energy.htm.

Clean Energy In Connecticut

What are the Clean Energy Options for CT? Visit <http://www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com>
Is your town a member of the 20% by 2010 Campaign? Is your town a Clean Energy Community? Visit http://www.smartpwr.org/20renewable_energy.htm to see this information.

Energy information:

Green Power: <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/whatis/renewableenergy.htm>

Hydropower: http://www.need.org/needpdf/infobook_activities/IntInfo/Hydrol.pdf

Wind Power: http://www.need.org/needpdf/infobook_activities/IntInfo/WindI.pdf

Biomass/Landfill Gas: http://www.need.org/needpdf/infobook_activities/IntInfo/BiomassI.pdf

Writing Prompt

Your town has decided to join the 20% by 2010 Campaign. Your job as the city engineer is to write a short essay to be included in a brochure that will be mailed to all residents to persuade them to purchase renewable electrical energy from Connecticut's Clean Energy Options. Be sure to state the town's position, provide support and details that your reader will find persuasive.

When you write your paper, be sure to:

- State the town's position,
- Provide support and details that your reader will find persuasive, and
- Since brochures are concise, be sure to organize your ideas well and present them clearly.

Extensions

- **Marketing for Clean Energy** – After learning about Connecticut's Clean Energy Options, discuss and design ways that students can promote Clean Energy in their homes, their school and their town. Marketing campaigns might include producing the brochure from the writing prompt, surveys, posters, flyers, advertisements, talking with administrators and town officials, and letters to the editor.
- **Learn More about Renewables** – US Environmental Protection Agency <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/whatis/renewableenergy.htm> and The US Energy Information Administration http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/states/main_ct.html offer information about renewable power and energy use in Connecticut.