



Where is electrical energy found

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Like sun rays that charge solar panels. Or rushing water in a hydro dam. Or tides and waves in the sea. Or smelly gases from household waste. Or fossil fuels that we burn. Or geothermal heat from underground pools. Or wind that turns turbines, or- hang on a second...

Inside the generator is a ring of magnets and around this is lots of coiled up metal wire. The wind spins the turbine and this spins the magnets, and the spinning magnets generate an electrical current that flows through the wires. The faster the magnets spin, the more electricity is produced!

Gas power plants start with chemical energy - burning gas and hot air to turn turbines. And solar panels don't use turbines at all! They convert energy from the sun directly into electricity.

But however electricity is produced, it needs to be transported to houses. This is done through power lines. Then it transfers to underground cables or smaller power lines and then it goes to your home!

Electricity comes from a wide range of sources - solar panels, hydroelectric dams, geothermal reservoirs, fossil fuels, gases from our waste and even the energy stored inside atoms can all be used to generate electricity.

We don't get electricity directly from these sources. There is a process between capturing energy from the wind or sun or chemicals and plugging in a device to supply it with the electricity it needs to work.

Other energy sources start with heat energy. Geothermal, nuclear, biomass and fossil fuel power stations all produce heat. This heat energy is used to heat water into steam, or to heat other liquids or gases.



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