Key Vocabulary – ES 6: Renewable & Nonrenewable Resources

Renewable Resources – resources that can be replaced by nature at the same rate we use them. Examples: plants, wood, sunlight, water

Nonrenewable Resources – resources that are replaced too slowly or not at all. Examples: Coal, Oil, Minerals

Advantage / Benefit – a good thing about that resource

Disadvantage / Cost – a bad thing about that resource

Extraction – the mining or pumping out of a resource to use it.

Fossil Fuels – Nonrenewable sources of energy such as oil & coal. We get energy out of them by burning them. Burning them releases air & water pollution including acid rain and carbon dioxide emissions. BUT, fossil fuels are cheap and easy to use.

Carbon Dioxide (CO2) – a green house gas that is released (emitted) when burning fossil fuels. CO2 is very good at trapping Earth’s heat and is largely responsible for human-caused climate change.

Emerging Energy – new or advanced types of energy sources. The goal of emerging energy is to be more efficient, cleaner, and renewable. As more money is invested, we should see more and better emerging energy technology.

Clean Water Resources – Where we get drinking water. Water is renewable, but can easily be polluted. Clean, drinkable water can become nonrenewable if consumption (use) is greater than supply.

Hydroelectric – Dams…Using gravity and the weight of the water to power turbines. It is a renewable resource but changes the habitat in the area.

Metallurgy – an example of mineral resources; it is the extraction & purification of metals. Metallurgy in Virginia includes the metals zirconium & titanium.