



153. Renewable energy sources

W: Good morning everybody. Today I want to discuss about renewable energy sources. As a matter of facts, by 2050 the world will double its use of energy. Can somebody please mention one of these alternative energies?

Sarah: Yes, among these we have wind power, tidal energy, solar energy, bioenergy, and geothermal energy.

W: Very good Sarah. Thank you. European countries are increasingly turning to wind power but questions remain about its cost-effectiveness and sustainability. Why?

Sarah: Some complain that windmills are an eyesore, and wind speed is variable and unreliable.

W: That's right. What can you tell me about solar energy?

Sarah: Well, solar energy is free, renewable and silent but of limited use in cloudy places. Yet photovoltaic cells are one of the few renewable technologies that can be integrated into the urban landscape.

W: Very true. Not to forget that men have always dreamt of harnessing the restless tides and currents of the ocean to serve the planet's energy needs, maybe it's time.

Sarah: Let's take Iceland's example, geothermal energy comes from the heat in the Earth's core, and most buildings are heated in this way over there.

W: The conclusion is there are alternatives to oil, gas, coal and nuclear energy, so perhaps the tide is finally starting to turn on fossil fuel consumption.



GLOSSARY:

Renewable energy sources: les énergies renouvelables	Limited use : usage limité
To discuss : discuter, débattre	Cloudy places : les endroits nuageux
To mention : mentionner, citer	Photovoltaic cells : les cellules photovoltaïques
To turn to : se tourner vers	Renewable technologies: technologies renouvelables
To remain: demeurer, rester	The urban landscape: le paysage urbain
To complain: se plaindre	Tides and currents: les marées et les courants
To integrate: intégrer	Energy needs: les besoins en énergie
To harness: exploiter, maîtriser	Iceland: l'Islande
To serve the needs: répondre aux besoins	The heat: la chaleur
To heat: chauffer	The Earth's core: le noyau terrestre
To turn: tourner, ici changer	Buildings: les bâtiments
The use: l'usage, utilisation	Alternatives: des alternatives
Alternative energies: énergies renouvelables	Oil: le pétrole
Wind power: l'énergie éolienne	Gas: le gaz
Tidal energy: l'énergie marémotrice	Coal: le charbon
Solar energy: l'énergie solaire	Nuclear energy: l'énergie nucléaire
Bioenergy: la bioénergie	Fossil fuel: les énergies fossiles
Geothermal energy: la géothermie	Consumption: la consommation
European countries: les pays Européens	As a matter of facts : en effet
Cost-effectiveness : la rentabilité	Among : parmi
Sustainability : la durabilité	Increasingly : de plus en plus
Windmills : éoliennes	Variable : variable
An eyesore : une horreur	Unreliable : pas fiable
Wind speed : la vitesse du vent	Silent : silencieux

Yet : <i>ici</i> pourtant	Finally : finalement
Restless : sans repos, incessant	
Over there : là bas	