**General Environmental Science March 2012**

**How will we Fuel our Future?**

**Objective:** You have been recruited by the U.S. government to solve the problem of which energy sources should be developed to meet the U.S. growing energy demand. You must provide a detailed report to President Obama in which you compare and contrast at least **seven** energy sources. The Obama administration are concerned with the ability of each source to meet demand, their environmental impact (including potential to drive climate change), their cost, long term sustainability, and safety. Include a final recommendation outlining the main energy source(s) that you believe should receive government funding for research and development. Make sure that you justify your choice(s).

**Method:** Students may work alone or with a partner (NO MORE THAN TWO IN A GROUP) to research and present information on **ALL** the following seven energy sources: fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas), nuclear, wind, solar, biomass, hydroelectricity and geothermal.

See pp. 466-505 in your textbook to help you. You may also use the internet…Remember cut and pasting from the web is CHEATING and will receive ZERO CREDIT.

NOTE: How you choose to present the content is up to you. You may choose to make a poster, typed report, PowerPoint, graphic organizers / diagrams, graphs or tables.

**Grading**

For each energy source you **MUST** include the following information in YOUR OWN WORDS:

1. Provide a detailed description of how the energy works (3 points)

(“solar energy comes from the sun” is NOT a detailed description and will receive Zero credit)

1. Is this a non-renewable or renewable energy source (1 point)
2. Describe 2 advantages (Don’t just repeat that it is renewable) and 2 limitations of this energy source (4 points)
3. Include a relevant labeled illustration that will help Obama remember something important about this energy form (2 point)

**FINALLY,** Include a recommendation to the president as to which energy or energies should play a role in fueling our country’s future. Remember to justify your position (5 points)

Total points possible = **75 points**

**Due Date:**

**B day students – Friday March 30th at end of block**

**A day students – Monday April 2nd at end of block**

Late work will be deducted 20%. Work more than one week late **will not** receive credit.