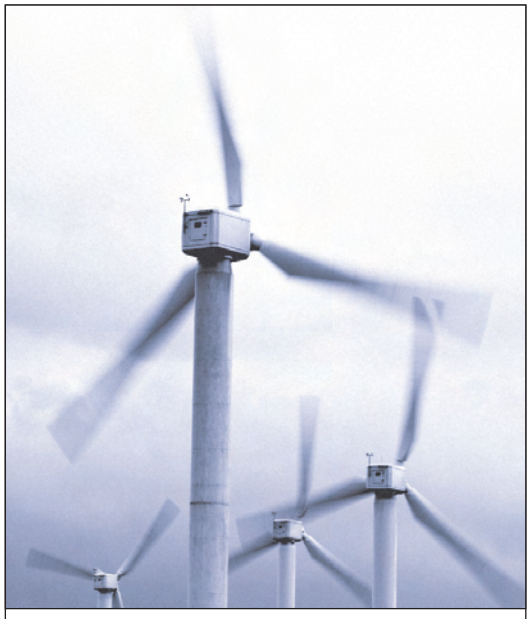
Energy and the Environment 2f

# Non-renewable versus renewable energy

- As there is strong evidence linking greenhouse gas emissions with climate change, many people believe we need to reduce our use of fossil fuels as a source of energy.
- Fossil fuels are known as non-renewable energy sources because they are likely to run out in the future.
- We need to look to alternative sources that:
  - will not contribute to climate change with greenhouse gas emissions
  - will not run out
- The main sources of alternative energy being developed are: solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, water and hydrogen.
- These alternative sources are called 'renewable'. They will never run out because they are naturally occurring and can be easily replaced.
- Most renewable sources can be classified as 'clean energy' sources, as they have little negative effect on the environment and do not give off greenhouse gases.
- The success of renewable energy is dependent on a variety of conditions, including the development of technology, location and climatic conditions.
- There is not a single type of renewable energy that can solve all our energy problems; instead we will need to use a variety of different types of renewable energy, as well as reduce the amount of energy we use in the first place.
- In recent years there have been many public awareness campaigns. Governments, businesses and individuals are all searching for clean energy alternatives and ways to become more energy efficient.

The burning of fossil fuels is harmful to the environment.



Wind power is a renewable source of energy.

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