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Message to Debaters
By Sterling Burnett [CLICK HERE »](#)

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About us

Debate Central is an online resource created and maintained by the National Center for Policy Analysis for high school students researching the nationwide high school debate topic.

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- » [Poverty--2009-2010 Topic](#)
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Cross Examination

Topic: Alternative Energy

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase alternative energy incentives in the United States.

Topic Analysis

-  [The Pickens Plan](#)
Follow this link to read about the Pickens Plan and how to use it in a debate round!
-  [Message to Debaters](#)
The Message to Debaters will give you an understanding of key economic principles that will be debated on this topic!
-  [Defeating the State Counterplan](#)
Follow the link for strategies against a state counterplan!
-  [Climate Change Policy: Should We Tax the Poor to Help the Rich?](#)
This paper provides strong offensive arguments against taking action today to combat global warming.
-  [Does Dependency on Imported Oil Benefit the United States?](#)
Read this paper to find arguments negative debaters can use to claim that dependency on foreign oil can benefit the United States.
-  [What Is an Incentive?](#)
Use these arguments to win that plans penalizing conventional energy are topical under this year's resolution.
-  [Glossary of Key Terms](#)
Check out our Glossary of Terms to gain a deeper understanding of the 2008-2009 topic!
-  [Overview of the 2008-2009 CX Topic](#)
Read Debate Central's thoughts on the energy topic! We outline the key issues you will debate this year.
-  [Energy Topic News](#)
Follow the link to keep up on the latest news on alternative energy!
-  [CX Questions](#)
A list of general CX questions for negatives to ask affirmatives!

Helpful Resources

- [Alternative Energy Sources](#)
- [Climate Change](#)
- [Competitiveness](#)
- [Deep Ecology](#)
- [Energy Conservation](#)
- [Energy Efficiency](#)
- [Energy Independence/Security](#)
- [Energy Reliability](#)
- [Environmental Regulations](#)
- [Fossil Fuel](#)
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Cross Examination

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Energy Topic News

Solar-Power Firm Fired-Up about Stimulus
- [Read more](#)



Energy

Debate Central does not necessarily endorse the views or authors presented in these cards. For Debate Central's view on the topic read our [Energy Topic Overview](#).

Oil by Chris Burk

Nuclear Energy by Chris Burk

This file contains both affirmative and negative cards on nuclear energy.

Blackouts by Chris Burk

This disadvantage argues that certain types of electrical power generation will make grid management much more difficult. This will lead to more blackouts and other disruptions causing the economy to suffer significantly.

States and Federalism by the Comet Debate Institute

This file includes a states counterplan and affirmative answers.

Global Warming by the Comet Debate Institute

This file will be very useful to debaters this year and includes cards arguing that global warming is good and global warming is bad.

RPS Affirmative by the Comet Debate Institute

Follow the link to a renewable portfolio standards affirmative case.

RPS Competitiveness Advantage by the Comet Debate Institute

Use this competitiveness advantage with the RPS affirmative posted above.

Energy Topicality by the Comet Debate Institute

This file will help you in topicality debate.

Experts by Topic

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Carbon Tax Affirmative by Chris Burk

This 100 page file includes a 1AC and extensions!

Energy Topicality by the University of Richmond National Debate Institute

The University of Richmond donated this file to help you begin your research on the new topic!

Peak Oil Answers by Chris Burk

This file will help you on the 2008-2009 Energy topic!

Older Files

Trade Bad by Chris Burk

This file is useful in two major ways. First, it provides direct answers to many arguments found in the Trade Counterplan available from debate-central during the Fall 2007 semester. Second, it provides impact arguments against 'free trade' and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Aid Trade-Off Disadvantage by Chris Burk

Debaters can argue that aid to Africa will trade-off with aid to Pakistan with this file.

Soft Power by Chris Burk

This is a useful argument for affirmative teams debating agent counterplans. Only U.S. action can boost U.S. soft power.

Free Trade Counterplan 1.0 by Chris Burk

This counterplan will help negative teams argue that the United States should enact policies to facilitate more trade with Sub-Saharan Africa.

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Learn About Debate

Rubaie Speaks

Follow this link to read Brian Rubaie's answers to all of your debate questions.

2009 Summer Debate Camps

As you are preparing for the 2009-2010 debate season, Debate Central provides the following list of debate camps around the country.

Round Reports

Follow the link to view reports of CX rounds from high school debate tournaments around the country. Recently we added a report from a quarterfinal round of the 2009 Coppell High School Tournament.

Debate Central FREE Workshop

If you could not attend one of our free workshops this fall you can listen to topic lectures online!

Tournament Casebooks

Follow the link to view casebooks from Grapevine and Greenhill.

Debate in the News

Follow this link to view newspaper articles discussing high school and college debate.

Understand Cross-Examination Debate

The following PDFs are great resources for understanding Cross-Examination Debate.

Understand Lincoln-Douglas Debate

The following PDFs are great resources for understanding Lincoln-Douglas style debate.

Important Terms in Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Understanding debate terminology is essential to excelling in the round. These terms are not limited to debate. They are applicable more broadly to assessing ideas and arguments.

Recent Articles

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Ask the Experts

The "Ask the Expert" feature of [Debate-Central](#) is intended to provide you access to leading experts on debate and this year's topic.

Topic - 2008: Alternative Energy



Camille Parmesan

[Ask Camille Parmesan a question.](#)

Dr. Camille Parmesan received her Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from the University of Texas at Austin in 1995. Since 1992 the focus of her work has been on biological impacts of anthropogenic climate change in natural systems. She is currently an Associate Professor in Integrative Biology at the University of Texas at Austin.

[Read Full Bio »](#)



Corinne Le Quere

[Ask Corinne Le Quere a question.](#)

For over 15 years, Dr. Le Quere has developed numerical models and analysed databases of the global ocean to try to understand and quantify the very large oceanic sink for CO₂ (which takes up 25% of the CO₂ emissions to the atmosphere from

human activities).

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Sterling Burnett

[Ask Sterling Burnett a question.](#)

[Read Sterling's answers to your questions!](#)

H. Sterling Burnett, Ph.D. is a Senior Fellow for the National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA). While Burnett works on a number of issues, he specializes in issues involving environmental policy.

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Experts by Topic

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Kenneth Green

[Ask Kenneth Green a question.](#)

Kenneth Green is a Resident Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. He studies the public policy aspects of climate change, air pollution, energy and the environment; transportation and the environment; and environmental chemicals.

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Tom Tanton

[Ask Tom Tanton a question.](#)

[Read Tom's answers to your questions!](#)

Tom Tanton is an adjunct scholar at the Institute for Energy Research. Mr. Tanton is a strong proponent of free market environmentalism and consumer choice, and frequently publishes and speaks against alarmist and reactionary policies and government failures.

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Samuel Stanley

[Ask Samuel Stanley a question.](#)

Samuel Staley is director of urban and land use policy at Reason Foundation, a nonprofit think tank advancing free minds and free markets.

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Bryan Leyland

[Ask Bryan Leyland a question.](#)

[Read Bryan's answers to your questions!](#)

Bryan Leyland is an electrical and mechanical engineer with wide experience in power generation, power systems and transmission and a recognized expert on all aspects of the design, construction and operation of small hydro schemes with wide experience on large schemes.

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