

Approach

In this phase we conferred with our client so we could show him our findings on solar, biomass and wind power. With our client, we decided that our approach to the project would be a comparison of renewable energy to “clean coal” technologies. This approach was chosen because renewable energy is initially more expensive than coal power. By comparing renewables with “clean coal” we would be able to level the playing field cost wise.

The remainder of our approach involved studying the “intangible” benefits of renewable energy. Our overall goal was to put dollar values to things like cleaner air and water, along with preservation of ranch and farmland. The challenge we had in this phase of our project was that the scope of the project was still too large. We were able to narrow the scope even more to ensure that we had a good analysis. We learned that even though a project like this doesn’t require any building, it still requires a significant amount of time to find the information you want.