

# FORMS OF ENERGY

All forms of energy fall under two categories

## POTENTIAL

Potential energy is stored energy and the energy of position (gravitational)



### CHEMICAL ENERGY

Chemical energy is the energy stored in the bonds of atoms and molecules. Biomass, petroleum, natural gas, propane and coal are examples of stored chemical energy.

### NUCLEAR ENERGY

Nuclear energy is the energy stored in the nucleus of an atom. It is the energy that holds the nucleus together. The nucleus of a uranium atom is an example of nuclear energy.

### STORED MECHANICAL ENERGY

Stored mechanical energy is energy stored in objects by the application of a force. Compressed springs and stretched rubber bands are examples of stored mechanical energy.

### GRAVITATIONAL ENERGY

Gravitational energy is the energy of place or position. Water in a reservoir behind a hydropower dam is an example of gravitational potential energy. When the water is released to spin the turbines, it becomes kinetic energy.

## KINETIC

Kinetic energy is energy in motion. It is the motion of waves, electrons, atoms, molecules and substances



### RADIANT ENERGY

Radiant energy is electromagnetic energy that travels in transverse waves. Radiant energy includes visible light, x-rays, gamma rays and radio waves. Solar energy is an example of radiant energy.

### THERMAL ENERGY

Thermal energy (or heat) is the internal energy in substances; it is the vibration and movement of atoms and molecules within substances. Geothermal energy is an example of thermal energy.

### MOTION

The movement of objects or substances from one place to another is motion. Wind and hydropower are examples of motion.

### SOUND

Sound is the movement of energy through substances in longitudinal (compression/rarefaction) waves.

### ELECTRICAL ENERGY

Electrical energy is the movement of electrons. Lightning and electricity are examples of electrical energy.