NAME: _____

IDENTIFYING ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ENERGY SOURCES

	Advantage	Disadvantage
Biomass is abundant and can be produced almost everywhere in the U.S.	X	
Biomass is difficult to store and transport because it decays.		X
Coal is being used a thousand times faster than it is being formed.		X
Coal is one of the most abundant fuels in the United States. We have a 168-239 year supply depending on the current rate of consumption.	X	
High temperature geothermal resources capable of producing electricity are not economically available in all parts of the nation.		X
Geothermal does very little damage to the environment because it does not burn any fuel.	X	
Reservoirs that result from construction of a dam for hydropower are often developed for recreational purposes, such as boating and fishing.	X	
When a Hydropower dam is built, thousands of acres of nearby land are flooded to create a reservoir.		X
Leaks can occur in natural gas pipelines. Fires and explosions can result from these leaks if proper safety precautions are not taken.		X
Natural Gas is considered the cleanest burning fossil fuel.	X	
When Petroleum products are burned, harmful emissions are produced.		X
Many chemical products from petroleum can be used to make plastics, medicines, fertilizers, and other products.	X	
As a vehicle fuel, propane is cleaner-burning than petroleum and leaves car engines free of deposits. Engines fueled by propane also have fewer emissions.	X	
Propane is more expensive than natural gas, heating oil, or kerosene.		X
Solar energy does not pollute the air.	X	
Large Solar systems take up a large amount of land		X
Uranium is easy to transport and is inexpensive.	X	
The main health risk from a nuclear power plant is potential radiation exposure.		X
Wind turbines do not cause air or water pollution because no fuel is burned to generate electricity.	X	
When the Wind is not blowing, other sources of energy must be used to generate needed electricity.		X

SOURCES OF ENERGY

Biomass Uranium Coal Hydropower Solar Propane
Geothermal Natural Gas Wind Petroleum

Renewable	Nonrenewable
Biomass	Uranium
Geothermal	Coal
Hydropower	Natural Gas
Solar	Propane
Wind	Petroleum