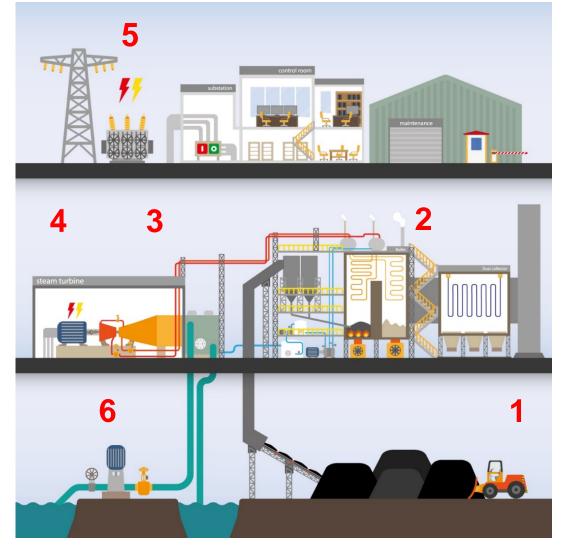


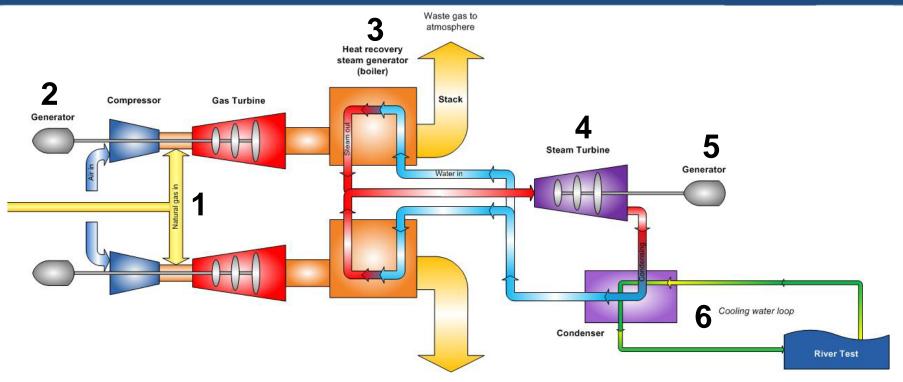
Coal-Fired Power Plant



- 1. Coal is pulverized and fed into a large furnace
- 2. The furnace heats water-filled tubes to produce steam
- 3. Steam is transferred under pressure which turns the turbine
- 4. Turbine is connected to a generator rotor
- 5. As the generator rotor spins, a flow of electrons is created to produce electricity
- 6. Steam is condensed back to water and cooled by a water supply, then reused

NERC

Combined Cycle Natural Gas Power Plant

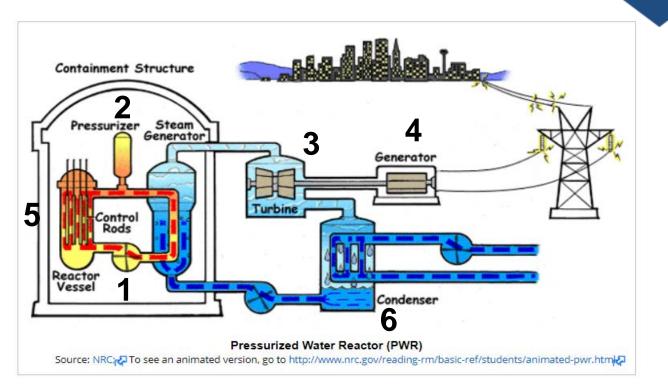


- 1. Natural gas heats air to spin the gas turbine(s)
- 2. Gas turbine(s) connected to generators convert mechanical energy of the turbine into electricity
- 3. Exhaust heat from gas turbine(s) used to boil water into steam
- 4. Steam is transferred under pressure which turns another turbine connected to a generator rotor
- 5. As the generator rotor spins, a flow of electrons is created to produce electricity
- 6. Steam is condensed back to water and cooled by a water supply, then reused

RELIABILITY | ACCOUNTABILITY



Nuclear Power Plant

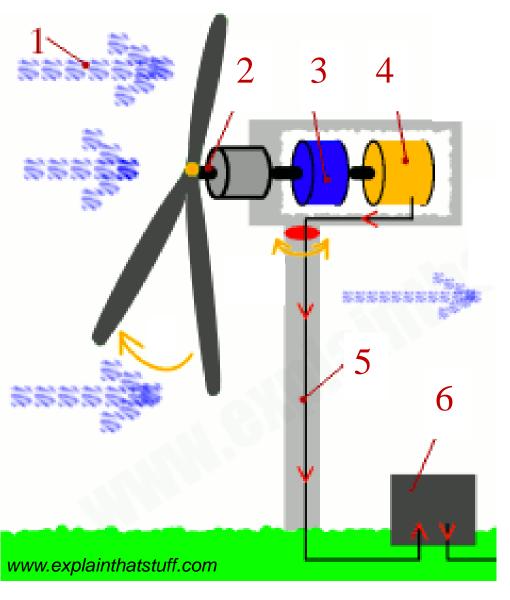


- 1. Rods of uranium are arranged in a bundle and immersed in a pressurized water tank
- 2. High-speed particles, neutrons, strike the uranium atoms and cause them to split; a process called fission
- 3. The process releases energy, which heats the water that is piped into the steam generator
- 4. As the generator rotor spins, a flow of electrons is created to produce electricity
- 5. Control rods that absorb neutrons are lowered into the reactor to manage the process of fission
- 6. Steam is condensed back to water, cooled and reused

RELIABILITY | ACCOUNTABILITY



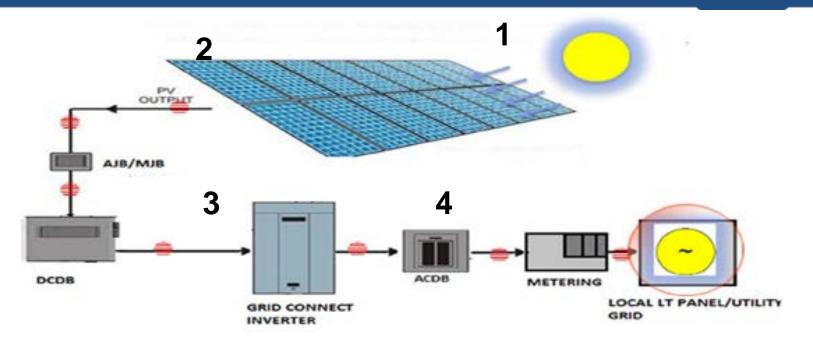
Wind Power Plant



- 1. Wind causes the rotors spin, capturing kinetic energy from the wind, and turning the central drive shaft
- 2. Rotor blades can swivel on the hub at the front to meet the wind at the best angle (or "pitch") for harvesting energy
- 3. The gearbox converts low-speed rotation of the drive shaft into high-speed rotation fast enough to drive the generator
- 4. The generator takes kinetic energy from the spinning drive shaft and turns it into electrical energy
- 5. The electric current produced by the generator flows through a cable running down through the inside of the turbine tower
- 6. A step-up transformer converts the electricity to about 50 times higher voltage so it can be transmitted efficiently to the power grid



Photovoltaic (Solar) Power Plant



- 1. Photovoltaic (solar) panels are made up of cells of semi-conducting material that release electrons when photons, particles that make up light waves, meet the material
- 2. Extremely fine metal wires carry electrons to negative and positive circuits to produce current
- 3. The current flows into the inverter which transforms the direct current (DC) into alternating current (AC)
- 4. The alternating current is transferred to a substation which boosts its voltage for transmission

RELIABILITY | ACCOUNTABILITY



Typical Hydroelectic Dam Powerhouse 4 9 1 9 1 9 1 </tr

Hydroelectric Dam

- 1. A hydroelectric plant uses falling water from a reservoir through an intake at the bottom of the dam wall to turn the turbine
- 2. Gravity causes the water to fall through the penstock inside the dam. At the end of the penstock there is a turbine propeller, which is turned by the moving water
- 3. The shaft from the turbine goes up into the generator, which produces the power
- 4. The generator is connected to power lines that carry the electricity
- 5. The water continues past the propeller through the tailrace into the river past the dam