

ChE 359/384 Energy Policy Paper

(due 10/29/09)

Choose from the following five topics for your policy paper; you need to investigate current (and pending) policies, legislation, and regulations and discuss changes in the policies to increase the potential usage of that technology. Also identify the barriers to adoption.

- (a) nuclear waste disposal
- (b) economic incentives, production requirements, or sustainability policies for biofuels production
- (c) cap and trade policies, carbon tax, or outright limits like National Ambient Air Quality Standards to reduce carbon dioxide emissions
- (d) transportation: increased gas tax (\$2/gallon), increased plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV) adoption, raising fleet average mpg (you can write on all three sub topics or just one)
- (e) change building codes in Austin, TX to increase solar power production

Policy project report (7-10 pages, 2000 to 3000 words) plus one summary slide of recommendations.

The report grading will be based on report organization, quality of writing, persuasiveness of your arguments, thoroughness of literature review and analysis, presentation of information (use of figures and tables), conclusions/impact of these policies, references.

All reports should have an abstract, table of contents, main body, conclusions and references. Sample reports will be posted on the course website.