

*MAE 124/ESYS 103: The Human Earth*

Assignment for Paper #1 (2006)

Due April 27<sup>th</sup> 12:01AM (That's the night of the 26<sup>th</sup>!)

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Suppose that you work at the Environmental Protection Agency as Director of the Office of Policy and Resources Management. Your boss, the Assistant Administrator for Administration and Resources Management, has asked you to draft some new potential regulation after her source on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce leaked to her part of the text of the “Amendment to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976”, section 101(d) of which reads:

(d) Energy

The Congress finds with respect to energy, that--;

- (1) technology exists to develop alternative energy sources for public and private consumption in order to reduce our dependence on such sources as petroleum products, natural gas, nuclear and hydroelectric generation; and
- (2) technology exists to achieve substantial efficiencies in domestic consumption of energy resources,
- (3) regulation regarding the promotion of these technologies for the purpose of environmental protection and reduction in dependence on international sources of energy shall be promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Your assignment is to produce a potential piece of regulation that will address the requirements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional finding. In your proposal:

- a) state the wording you propose for the rule. Use the most explicit possible language;
- b) discuss the costs and benefits associated with your rule. Consider the C&B with respect to the 3 Es (economy, environment, equity)
- c) justify your estimated costs and benefits with figures from reliable sources and site these sources in properly formatted footnotes.

Your paper should be 1250-1750 words in length, not including the text of your regulation itself, which should be on a separate page. Exercise brevity and clarity.

LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY REASON. IF YOU HAVE AN EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE REQUIRING AN EXTENSION, SET UP A TIME TO SPEAK WITH THE TA ASAP!