

Natural Resources and Energy Terminology

Coal — Copper — Gas — Natural resources
Petroleum — Phosphorus — Potassium
Sunshine — Trees — Water

Coal	resource burned for heat; made mostly of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur
Copper	natural resource; a metal that is an excellent conductor of electricity
Gas	resource, either natural or manufactured, used to produce heat and energy
Natural resources	things in the environment that provide for people's needs
Petroleum	natural resource in two forms—liquid, called crude oil, and gas, called natural gas
Phosphorus	nonmetallic element; necessary for life; some forms are very combustible
Potassium	one of the lightest metallic elements; some forms used in energy production
Sunshine	solar energy vital to life on earth
Trees	help provide living things with oxygen, a critical component of life
Water	the most common resource on the surface of the Earth; necessary for life

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