



Energy generation

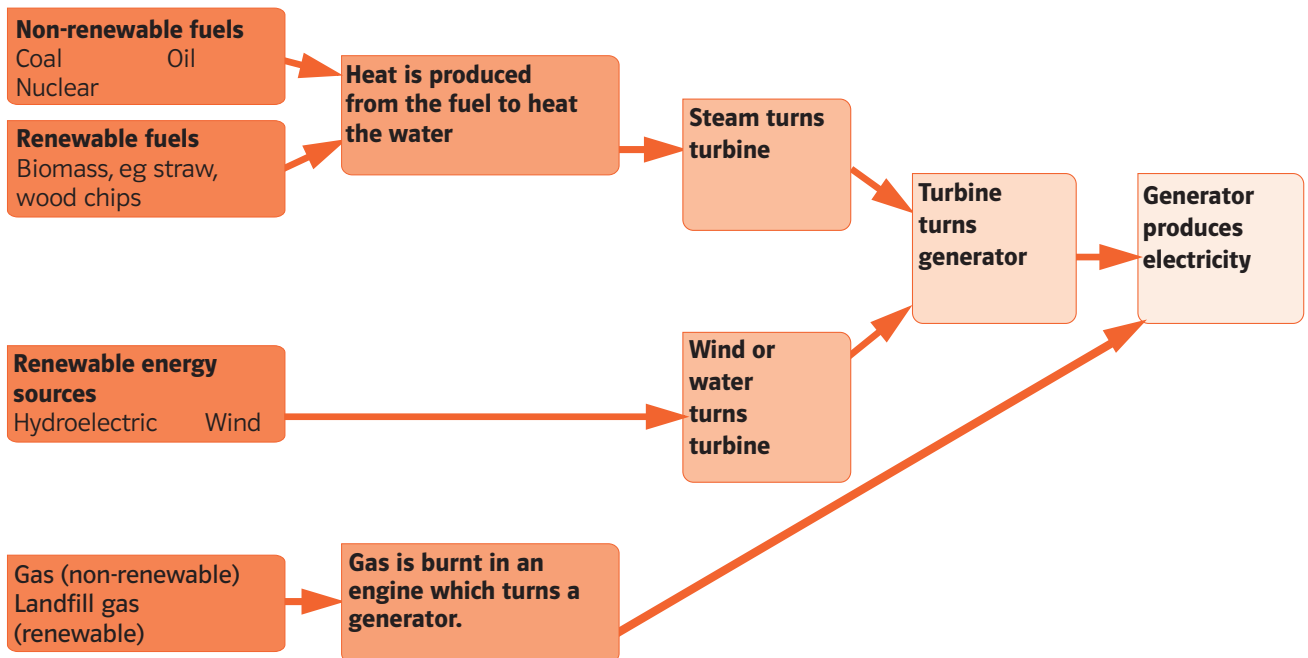
In 1831, an English scientist called Michael Faraday found out that moving a magnet inside a coil of wire created electricity. He had discovered the generator!

Modern electricity generators work in the same way but on a much larger scale. Giant electromagnets are rotated inside huge coils of wire at high speed. Power station generators can generate 22,000 volts (22kV) of electricity.

Power stations

The buildings where electricity is generated on a large scale are called power stations. A lot of energy is needed to turn an electricity generator in a power station.

How most electricity is generated



Energy source	%
Gas	39.5%
Coal	33.4%
Nuclear	20.2%
Hydroelectric	1.2%
Oil	1.2%
Wind	0.5%
Biomass	2%
Solar	less than 0.1%

The amount of electricity supplied to the UK from these energy sources