

# Debate



**Mollie Horner**

I run a bakery and for bread to be ready first thing in the morning we start work at 2am. We get a discount on our bills because electricity is cheaper at night. I wondered why and it is because you cannot switch big power stations off and on easily, so at night they have more electricity than is needed. But only just enough in the daytime

**Fact:** Currently the distribution system has to be big enough to handle 'peak' demand – when everyone is cooking their evening meal at the same time. Most of the time demand is much lower so a lot of capacity is wasted.

**Issue:** Not everyone starts work at 2am but if we had local hydro generation that runs all day and night it would help to meet our energy needs.

**Question:** Why don't we consider being more efficient in general? We could use a lot less than we do now.

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**Ella Peebles**

I work at the local nursery school. I love kids: it is all I ever wanted to do. I look at them so happy and full of enthusiasm and I really worry what their futures are going to be like. We can't just mess up the world and leave it for them to deal with. Generating energy locally will make it much cheaper in the long run.

**Fact:** Scientists think that unless we make big changes now, global warming is likely to exceed 2°C by the end of the century and that will have serious consequences.

**Issue:** We have to make changes now or it will be much harder to do later on. We can work together as a community to raise the money and get money back from generating the energy.

**Question:** Why don't we collaborate and do something for the benefit of everyone?

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**Pat Davison**

We need big solutions for big problems. We will need much more energy in future and having lots of little projects is not enough.

As an engineer I want to see us building more big power stations so we can meet demand.

**Fact:** As the population grows we will need more energy than we can currently produce particularly at peak times

**Issue:** It is hard to get a community to work together on an energy project like this. It would take a lot of effort.

**Question:** Why not let the big energy companies sort out supply?

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**Tina Cullen**

I've lived in this village for ten years and it is beautiful. The views bring me peace and make it seem that everything is ok with the world. There are trees here that were growing before my great-grandad was born and they would outlive me if we don't chop them down.

**Fact:** I have suffered with stress from work and being able to look at these views have helped me to get better.

**Issue:** There is too much building going on everywhere. It is worth keeping some beautiful places for us to enjoy.

**Question:** Why should we destroy our countryside so that we can produce more energy – just because some people cannot learn to switch off their lights?

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