

Contents

1. Introduction: Man and Energy	1
2. Solar Energy and Climate	12
2.1 The source of solar energy	12
2.2 The sun as a black body	15
2.3 The solar constant	19
2.4 The atmosphere	23
2.5 The radiation balance in the atmosphere	31
2.6 Climatic effects of power production	36
2.7 Summary	46
3. Photosynthesis	43
3.1 Evolution of the photosynthetic process	44
3.2 Structural aspects of photosynthesis	45
3.3 Chemical aspects of photosynthesis	47
3.4 Mechanism of photosynthesis	53
3.5 Productivity of plants	60
4. Fossil Fuels	66
4.1 Formation of coal and peat	67
4.2 The classification of coal	70
4.3 The composition of coal	72
4.4 World distribution of peat and coal	79
4.5 The chemistry of crude oil	81
4.6 Formation of oil	85
4.7 World distribution of petroleum	90
4.8 Oil shales and tar sands	93
5. The Use of Coal and Peat	96
5.1 Coal	96
5.2 Coal mining	102
5.3 Coal-fired electricity generation	110
5.4 Small-scale coal burning equipment	113
5.5 Smokeless fuels	115
5.6 Coal-based chemicals	119
5.7 Future technologies based on coal	126
5.8 Peat	128
5.9 Peat as a fuel	133

6. The Use of Oil and Natural Gas	137
6.1 Oil prospecting	142
6.2 Drilling	147
6.3 Extraction and refining	151
6.4 Gases	156
6.5 Gasoline (petrol)	156
6.6 Naphtha	164
6.7 Kerosene (paraffin oil)	165
6.8 Aviation fuel	167
6.9 Gas oil	170
6.10 Residual fuel oil	171
6.11 Non-fuel uses of oil	172
7. Electricity Generation and Transmission	175
7.1 Fuels and boilers	176
7.2 Steam turbines	176
7.3 Condensers	187
7.4 AC and DC systems	188
7.5 Electricity generators	191
7.6 Electricity transmission	200
8. Nuclear Physics	206
8.1 Properties of the nucleus	208
8.2 Radioactivity	211
8.3 Artificial nuclear disintegration	215
8.4 Nuclear models	220
8.5 Nuclear reaction cross-sections	223
8.6 Neutron physics	224
9. Nuclear Fission	234
9.1 Aspects of the fission process	235
9.2 Liquid drop model of fission	241
9.3 Power from nuclear fission	245
9.4 Reactor criticality	249
9.5 Thermal reactors	253
9.6 Neutron reflection	258
9.7 Fast reactors and breeding	259
10. Nuclear Power	262
10.1 Nuclear power reactors	263
10.2 Fuel management	266
10.3 Reactor control	267
10.4 Energy removal	273
10.5 Safety	279
10.6 Light water reactors	284
10.7 Heavy water reactors	287
10.8 Gas-cooled reactors	288
10.9 Fast reactors	292

11. Nuclear Fusion	296
11.1 Physical conditions for thermonuclear reactions	296
11.2 Energy losses in fusion	303
11.3 The production of power from thermonuclear reactions	305
11.4 Approaches to controlled fusion	307
11.5 Thermonuclear engineering	313
11.6 Radioactive hazards of fusion reactors	314
11.7 Summary	315
12. Solar Power	317
12.1 Equilibrium temperature of irradiated matter	317
12.2 Heating by solar energy	322
12.3 Conversion of solar energy into mechanical work	328
12.4 Conversion of solar energy into electricity	330
12.5 Prospects for solar power	340
13. Other Natural Power Sources	342
13.1 Water power	344
13.2 Wind power	351
13.3 Geothermal power	356
13.4 Tidal power	360
13.5 Waves and ocean currents	365
14. Energy Storage	367
14.1 Off-peak electrical power	369
14.2 Pumped storage schemes	370
14.3 Chemical storage	373
14.4 Batteries	379
14.5 Fuel cells	385
14.6 Electrochemical transport	396
14.7 Summary	398
15. Energy Waste	400
15.1 Pollution	401
15.2 Efficiency of electricity generation	408
15.3 Space heating and insulation	411
15.4 District heating and other total energy schemes	418
15.5 Transport	424
15.6 Refuse incineration and recycling	425
16. The Heat Pump	431
16.1 Operating cycles	432
16.2 Sources of heat	441
16.3 Design considerations	446
16.4 Refrigerants	450
16.5 Air heat pumps	459
16.6 The case for the heat pump	460

17. Transport of Fuel	463
17.1 Sea transport of oil and gas	463
17.2 Pipeline transport of oil and gas	467
17.3 Transport of coal	468
17.4 Transmission of energy	469
18. Economic and Social Aspects of Fuel and Power	471
18.1 Coal	471
18.2 North Sea oil	473
18.3 Peat and rural development	474
18.4 Costs of electricity plants	475
18.5 Fuel saving	476
18.6 Conclusions	477
19. Energy Policy	478
Appendix 1 Units	484
Appendix 2 Thermodynamics and Heat Engines	487
Index	497

