



NATIONAL ENERGY FOUNDATION
RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UTAH STUDENTS TO DEBATE ALTERNATIVE ENERGY POLICY

Should the state of Utah encourage alternative energy use in transportation systems?

SALT LAKE CITY (January 18, 2006) –On Saturday January 21, 2006 over 500 Utah teachers and students from grades four through nine will meet at Mt. Jordan Middle School in Sandy, Utah to prepare for the 2006 Utah Debate Program by learning from professionals who are experts on alternative energy transportation. Participants in this year's conference represent a portion of the anticipated 10,000 students preparing to research and debate this year's resolution.

Policy Resolution: "RESOLVED: THAT THE STATE OF UTAH SHOULD INCREASE PERSONAL INCENTIVES FOR USE OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES IN ITS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS."

Lincoln-Douglas Resolution: "RESOLVED: THAT WHEN IN CONFLICT, THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES MUST TAKE PRIORITY OVER TRADITIONAL FUELS IN UTAH'S TRANSPORTION SYSTEM."

The Conference begins with a keynote address by Laura Nelson, PhD, Energy Policy Advisor, Utah State Governor's Office. Students will then break into individual sessions lead by experts in the field, including: Beverly Miller, Director Utah Clean Cities, Lisa Yoder, Outreach Specialist, ETC Group, Inc., Glade Sowards, Energy Program Coordinator, Utah Division of Air Quality, Ralph Becker, Utah State Representative, Kevin J. Knight, Energy Policy Coordinator, Utah State Governor's Office, Leon Smith, Syntech, Gordon Larsen, Questar Gas Company, Ran MacDonald, Utah Division of Air Quality, Stan Banks, Debate Coach, Bingham High School, Micah Heaton & Neal Mason, Bingham High School, Debra Lowe, Midvale Middle School, Marilyn Clark, National Energy Foundation.

Teachers and students will learn about debate policy and strategy as well as receive information regarding alternative energy transportation. At the conclusion of the conference, participants will take the information they've obtained and share it with hundreds of student debaters at their respective schools. They will then prepare arguments in support of or against the debate resolution, and have the opportunity to compete within their schools, districts and at the April 2006 final State Debate Competition.

School districts participating in 2006 are Cache, Granite, Jordan, Logan, Murray, Nebo, Salt Lake, Tooele and Washington.

EVENT SCHEDULE

2006 UTAH DEBATE PROGRAM CONFERENCE

Saturday, January 21, 2006

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

MT. JORDAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

9360 South 300 East, Sandy, Utah

8:30 – 9:20 AM General Session in Auditorium

- Keynote Speech: Laura Nelson, PhD, Energy Policy Advisor, Utah State Governor's Office
- Mock Debate – Morningside Elementary

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM Breakout Sessions

9:30 – 12:00 AM Marketplace (Informational Booths)

The Utah Debate Program is in the 16th consecutive year under the leadership of the National Energy Foundation with additional sponsorship provided by the Utah State Energy Program, Utah Department of Environmental Quality, and Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation. Students from many regions in the state have been invited to participate. This is a voluntary curriculum tool that provides an outstanding avenue through which students may develop their thinking, reading, writing, listening, and decision-making and public speaking skills.

The National Energy Foundation is a unique 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the development, dissemination, and implementation of supplementary educational materials, programs and courses that relate primarily to energy, water, natural resources, science and math, technology, conservation and the environment. These teaching resources emphasize the important contribution of natural resources to our economy, to our national security, the environment and our quality of life. For more information about National Energy Foundation, visit the www.nef1.org

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