

Process Memo

This journey through Paper #2 has been a time-consuming and arduous, but still extremely rewarding. In all of my years spent writing research papers, I have never gotten so involved with my writing like I have with this piece. When researching my topic, I discovered things that I could have never dreamed were true about alternatives energies. Facts such as, the dramatically lowered concentrations of sulfate particulate in biodiesel exhaust, have caused a dramatic shift in my outlook on carbon-based fossil fuels. As a result of my research and the critical analysis of the set issue—the need to instigate the widespread use of biodiesel due to the adverse health effects that are associated with exposure to oil processing and refining—I have become a fervent advocate of cleaner energy. When we were presented the description of Paper #2, I chose the medium, *FUEL*, because it was recommended to me by my AP Environmental Science teacher in high school. He knew that I was passionate about the subject of alternative energy. Although, my writing journey had its share of obstacles, I was not left astray. I received helpful feedback from Kaylen Hendrick, Samantha Peters, and Sheila Woodruff. Even though, this piece is still not perfect, I would like to improve it if I was allotted extra time. One of the main additions would be an experiment that I would conduct myself regarding the concentrations of oil byproducts in the waterways of the Gulf Coast. As a result of the recent BP spill, many oil patches in the Gulf of Mexico have been “remedied” by setting them ablaze. When these newly released carcinogens are swept up by the prevailing winds they are deposited within various water systems along the coast. With the correct supplies and supervision, I feel that this study would have be a valuable addition to my paper. I would have also liked to seek the research ideas of an expert in the field of biodiesel. In the end, this paper was an incredible learning experience that I will always remember.