

PART II - CLASS PROJECT - “Sunshine City Needs Electricity”

In this culminating role play, students tackle complicated issues related to electrical generating stations for Sunshine City. Students discuss the pros and cons of: a proposed nuclear power station, a coal/oil electrical power station, a hydroelectric dam and no power station of any type. There are four activities in the role play:

Activity 1 - Question and Answer Session

Activity 2 - Letter Writing To The Mayor of Sunshine City

Activity 3 - City Council Public Forum

Activity 4 - Vote.

Begin by explaining what a “role play” is and how it is absolutely necessary to stay “in role” once things have started. Explain to students that the only thing they will be required to hand in for marking is a 150 word letter, written in role. Any other marks will be based on how well students stay in role and play their part.

Assign roles with two or three students representing each group. The following organizations are represented:

- 1) Acme Atomic - a company proposing to build a nuclear reactor to produce electricity.
- 2) Edsel Electric - a large power company wishing to construct a plant that burns coal and oil to produce electricity.
- 3) Hillman Hydro - a power company proposing a hydroelectric dam across the Reindeer river.
- 4) Conservation Connection - an organization that believes Sunshine City does not need any type of new powerplant. City residents should just use less electricity and eliminate the need for a new power station.
- 5) Friends of the Forest - an environmental organization concerned with the possible destruction of the forest and wildlife areas around Sunshine City. All three projects have environmental issues.
- 6) Concerned Citizens Coalition - a group of city residents worried about pollution in and around Sunshine City. Mainly concerned with nuclear waste as well as smog from a coal/oil burning plant.
- 7) W.A.M.A. (We're Not Moving Anewhere) - an organization representing the small village of Cabbagetown (58 residents) which is 10 kilometers upstream from Sunshine City that would be flooded if a hydroelectric dam were built.