

CHAPTER 10	Investigation 10.D: Fuelling Thermal Power Plants	BLM 10.3.2
HANDOUT		

In this investigation, you and your group will compile data on the heat content of fuels used in Alberta's thermal power plants and combine that information with environmental data to assess the fuels.

Issue

Is coal or natural gas a wiser choice from thermochemical, environmental, and economic perspectives for Alberta?

Gathering Data and Information

1. Using the Internet or other resources, research the two fuels used in Alberta's thermal power plants. **ICT**

Your research should include:

- the heat content of the fuels
- environmental and economic issues surrounding recovery and use—include quantitative and qualitative data

Organizing Findings

2. Using a spreadsheet package, organize your findings for both fuels. **ICT**
3. Graph numerical data to illustrate quantitative differences between the two fuels.
4. With your group, analyze your data and propose a plan for thermal power plants.
5. Display your findings in a presentation or on a poster.

Opinions and Recommendations

1. Discuss the groups' findings as a class.

(a) Did all groups come to the same conclusions? Why or why not?

(b) Do you think your proposal is reasonable? Why or why not?

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(c) What other factors should have been considered that were not? Explain.