**Powering Smallsburg Overhead 1**

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| **Type of Power Plant** | **Requirements (i.e., fuel, sunshine, etc.)** | **Cost (high or low?)** | **Environmental Concerns** | **Renewable/****Non-Renewable** | **% of Current U.S. Electrical Production** |
| Hydroelectric | A valley with a sizable river | Low | Construction of the dam and rising water levels affect people living upstream of the dam. The dam also disrupts the ecology of the stream. | Renewable | 7% |
| Photovoltaic (PV) | A lot of sunshine (not good for cloudy places) | Very High | Needs energy storage (intermittent energy source) which increases cost significantly | Renewable | 0.1% |
| Wind Turbine | A consistently windy place | High | Some people think they are ugly (a form of visual pollution). Some studies suggest that wind turbines kill birds. Needs energy storage like PVs. | Renewable | 0.4% |
| Nuclear | Uranium | Low | There are concerns about transporting uranium to/from plant, and the storage (for centuries) of the radioactive used fuel rods. Uranium must be mined. | Non-renewable | 20% |
| Coal | Coal | Very Low | Current coal plants give off significant amounts of carbon dioxide (global warming), sulfur dioxide (acid rain), nitrogen oxides (acid rain and smog), and mercury (birth defects); some newer plants significantly reduce these emissions. Coal must be mined, and these mines are often unsightly and potentially damaging to the environment. | Non-renewable | 50% |