**Cost Benefits – Assignment - WORKSHEET**

Research the types of energy used in your community, trying to find the actual costs of that type of energy. Also, consider the types of energy that are not used in your community.

Complete the cost-benefit analysis table to explain the costs and benefits of changing the energy sources used by your community.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Benefit (+)** | **Cost (-)** | **Unsure (?)** | **Justification** |
| Upfront cost to install |  | - 4 |  | This can cause a barrier for initialization and can |
| Land usage |  | -4 |  | Need for lots of clear, flat land. Rise demand of land. |
| Jobs | +4 |  |  | Create jobs for people |
| Lower Costs | +3 |  |  | Lower costs for people who would use the energy. |
| Energy independence | +5 |  |  | Enable a more reliant and stable energy |
| Totals: | +12 | -8 |  | Overall Total: 4 |

**Overall Assessment:**

1. Should your community change the sources of energy that it uses? Write a claim or statement below that answers the question. You do not need to include evidence in this part of the response.

**My community should switch to solar energy because it is a cleaner alternative and have a positive lasting impact.**

1. List evidence to support your claim. You may use evidence from your cost-benefit analysis table and your understanding of the different types of resources

**Switching to solar power would be positive for my community because it would lower the costs for the people using the electricity. It would help in creating jobs, then helping the local economy. We would reduce our need for outside energy. making our community more independent. The upfront cost and land costs are high, but the long term benefits outweigh the costs.**

1. Explain your reasoning for the claim. Describe why and how the evidence you used supports your claim.