**Energy resources**

* Two types:
  + Non-renewable resources
    - Fossil fuels – oil, natural gas and coal
      * Coal formed from the dead remains of trees, ferns and other plants that lived 300 to 400 million years ago
      * Oil and natural gas are from animals and organisms that lived in the water and were buried under ocean or river sediments
      * Slovak thermal plants:
        + Nováky
        + Vojany
      * Advantages
        + Coal is cheap energy resource
      * Disadvantages
        + All are nonrenewable because they take millions of years to form.
        + All release pollutants into the air when burned.
        + Drilling for oil and natural gas and digging up coal can disturb fragile ecosystems.
    - Once they are used, they cannot be renewed by natural process
  + Renewable resources
    - Natural resources – wind, water, solar, geothermal and biomass
  + Nuclear energy – alternative source of energy
    - Nuclear power plants require uraniom as the fuel source
    - When uranium atoms are split, heat is released. Water is circulated through the reactor to keep it cool. As the water turns into steam, it is forced through a turbine to generate electricity.
    - Slovak nuclear power plants:
      * Jaslovské Bohunice
      * Mochovce
    - Advantages:
      * There is no air pollution
      * The cost of uranium ore is cheap
    - Disadvantages
      * They produce nuclear waste which is radioactive
      * Are expansive to build