Energy Supply

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Problem Statement

- TCNJ is determining if their current sustainability and economical efforts are sufficient.
- Data is currently not placed using a database or a user-friendly application.
 - Difficult to understand and search for information
- Main issue is to determine which energy source contributes the most towards a possible economic or pollution problem.

Objective

- To resolve this issue, our group will plan on creating:
 - An efficient database that highlights general categories including cost and energy usage
 - Focus on C.T.O and emissions of Tri-Gen/Boilers/Chiller
 - Emissions at Site/Source
 - Separate subcategories that differentiate by energy type
 - Visualization of the environmental impact and cost relationship present for further analysis

Desired End Product Description

- Easily understandable map with information breakdown by building
- Include a map that displays:
 - Costs of each energy source
 - Total emissions of each energy source
 - Total emissions at a site/source basis
- User will be able to retrieve pertinent information, filter data to an extent

Why Model is Important

- TCNJ currently lacks an easily accessible/readable information application regarding energy use
- Find optimal areas to reduce energy costs and pollution via visual
- Users can see biggest contributors to cost and pollution
- End result will map to TCNJ's goal for environmental sustainability
- Also offer insight to plan for renewable energy

Method of Research

In order to fully understand the problem domain, our group plans on:

- Performing analysis on historical data to understand trends within TCNJ energy usage
- Look into the college's current strategy for energy supply
- Determine areas that would be a possible alternative depending on:
 - Sustainability
 - Energy cost
 - Energy consumption

Similar Approaches

- Energy Star Manager
- AASHE's STAR
- Scoring Analytic
 - Rating of energy source's cost and pollution

Possible Alternate Applications

- Create expected budgets based on available funds and energy needed
- Examine economic and environmental impact by season
- Re-use application to examine trends:
 - That may arise as time goes on
 - Different areas of college:
 - Vehicle supply
 - Food supply
 - Water supply