

## UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA AICHE ENERGY COMMITTEE

Presented By: Robert Dotson, Chairman

The University of Florida student chapter of the AICHE sponsored "Energy Committee" was formed in January 1979 by Dr. Dale Kirmse. Recognition was given to the Energy Committee at the 1979 AICHE Student Southern Regional Conference. Resolution 5 reads, "As AICHE chapters, we strongly commit ourselves to energy and environmental awareness and education and that we impart this awareness to the public following the example set by the University of Florida Energy Committee".

The Energy Committee was organized in order to (1) learn first-hand about our nations energy status, and (2) inform the public on what we have learned. We hope that the result of our effort will be a more aware and responsible public.

In presenting our material, we try to follow these guide lines:

- (1) Present the material in a factual manner. As engineers, we are obligated to provide accurate information.
- (2) Talk in layman's terms. The use of technical terms may be impressive, but it will hinder the transfer of information from us to the public.
- (3) Remain unbiased and non-political. There are more opinions on the subject of energy than there are facts to back them up.

In approaching the problem of researching and presenting material on such a broad and diverse area as energy, the energy committee decided to develop a series of "packet form" programs. Each program in the series will discuss a major topic in the field of energy.

The Energy Committee has, up to this time, completed two talks and a third is being prepared. The first talk, entitled "Electrical Power from Raw Energy Sources", discussed major and alternate energy sources. The talk included areas in Coal, Oil, and Gas, Nuclear, and alternate sources (solar, wind, wave, hydro, and geothermal). Each area included:

- (1) How the source is used to produce power.
- (2) How the source is obtained
- (3) Environmental impact
  - A) Air Pollution
  - B) Water Pollution
  - C) Radiation
  - D) Waste
- (4) Advantages and disadvantages

This talk has been presented with great acceptance to various organizations, including the AIChE Peninsular Section meeting, on October 29, 1979, at the University of Florida.

The second talk, "Energy Conservation in the Home", is to inform the public of methods to reduce electrical consumption in the home. Three major categories are discussed:

- (1) Heating/Air Conditioning/Water Heating
- (2) Insulation/Windows
- (3) Appliances/Lighting

This information was presented as helpful hints, to be applied with precaution, to reduce a family's electrical bill.

The Energy Committee's, main objective, as mentioned earlier, is to create a more aware and responsible public. To do this, the Energy Committee plans to present talks on current energy topics of public interest, such as, "Clean Fuels From Coal".