Energy is the foundation for the modern economy. It powers vehicles, homes and businesses, and is essential for virtually all human activity. In the United States, the energy industry provides jobs, supports economic growth and helps ensure the country's energy security. Energy is the backbone of our economy, providing the power to operate, including the lubricants and chemicals that keep our factories running and our transportation systems moving.

**9:00 A.M.**

Susan, a single mom, gets up at 6:30 a.m. to prepare for her day. She fills her car with gasoline and heads off to work, where she has a front desk job. She makes $8.50 an hour, but she's grateful for the job, which supports her children.

**11:30 A.M.**

Susan's daughter, Jason, is in first grade. He and his classmates are reading about energy in their science class. They learn that energy is used to do work, and that electricity is a type of energy.

**5:30 P.M.**

Jason and his mom, Susan, come home after work. They make dinner together, and then Jason goes to bed. Susan watches television and reads a book before going to bed.

**9:00 P.M.**

The children incarcerated in this prison have nowhere else to go, and few of them have any hope for the future. They are part of a growing population of young people who are leaving the criminal justice system, but who face a difficult road ahead.

**11:10 P.M.**

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Energy is the ability to manage our environment. It protects us from the perils potentially lurking ahead, delivering warmth when it’s cold and cooling when it’s warm. It lets us responsibly adapt to our circumstances while advancing our collective objectives.

Energy is essential for modern life. It’s the power to process, analyze and compute. We use energy to assemble and deploy information that surrounds us and regulates us. Energy turns modern communications that reach across the globe and beyond, creating connections between people and forming the package of ideas.

Energy is the key to longer and better lives. It’s in the medical knowledge, diagnostic technologies and treatments that have modernized and advanced health care more available to more people.

Energy is freedom. It moves us from here to there – from one place, their futures predetermined. – and might not come at all. Many would be locked in where they are, with no chance to move, build and communicate.

Without abundant, affordable and secure energy, our possibilities are limited. Our education, our entertainment, our health care, our leisure, benevolence. And the list goes on, because energy is essential for modern life.

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Energy must come from somewhere.