

News 6 Pooling Resources for a Clear World

Get the Point

- 1 What is the main topic of this news?
- 2 What is referred to in this news as the biggest problem with renewable sources of energy?
- 3 What is the energy made by wind farms and solar plants called in this news?

Listening Comprehension

- 1 According to Philip Taylor, what is one advantage of conventional power plants?
 - A They can generate more coal whenever it is needed.
 - B They can respond flexibly to changes in demand and supply.
 - C They can be built anywhere.
 - D They can pool resources.
- 2 What might virtual power plants eventually contribute significantly to?
 - A A shift to a lifestyle of low carbon output
 - B Negative energy prices
 - C Cloud-based generation of electricity
 - D The creation of better data-collection and communication systems
- 3 What is one of the weak points of virtual power plants?
 - A They have been found to be without weaknesses.
 - B They are very expensive to repair when damaged.
 - C Many commercial agreements are needed to prevent cyberattacks on them.
 - D They are subject to cyberattacks, because they depend a lot on software systems.
- 4 What can a virtual power plant do when it produces too much energy?
 - A Share the energy with another plant in the same network
 - B Store the energy for later use
 - C Reduce its production
 - D All of the above

Reading Comprehension

- 1 In theory, the virtual power plant in Germany could meet the electricity needs of 5 million households.
- 2 Virtual power plants can connect disparate sources of renewable-energy production, but they cannot save energy for later use.
- 3 In Europe, more than 1,500 clean-energy power plants are connected to storage facilities via a cloud-based artificial-intelligence platform.

Summary

Expression

Discussion

How can we save energy in our daily lives.

Writing

In approximately 150 words, write a short essay on how to save energy in your daily life.