Wind Power: A Viable Solution to the Energy Crisis?

HOOK! The United States of America is home to four percent of the world's population, yet it uses twenty-four percent of the world's energy and twenty-five percent of its oil (DeGunther 66). PREMISE/Context!!: In the year 2000 alone, the United States used 20 million barrels of crude oil each day (DeGunther 16). That oil is quickly running out. It is estimated that the current United States domestic supply of crude oil sits at a mere 21.3 billion barrels. This may seem like an abundance, but current use is 8% of these reserves per year. At this rate, the United States will run out of domestic oil within the next twelve years (DeGunther 17). ARGUMENT!: It is critical that the world, and the United States in particular, find alternative sources of energy that will never disappear. This can be defined as renewable energy, which is a non-fossil fuel source of energy which will never run out. Examples of this type of energy include solar power, hydropower, and wind. The currently known renewable energy source with the greatest potential is clearly wind power. COUNTERARGUMENT: Granted, wind turbines can be audially disturbing, do not produce much energy, and are potentially threatening to wildlife. However, THESIS!: the use of wind as an energy source should be strongly encouraged because of its efficiency, economic benefits and lessened environmental impact.