

Bitcoin Basis 19 - Energy use (English)

Bitcoin's Proof of Work, by its very nature, consumes electricity. Contrary to what some would have you believe; electricity has no moral compass and is not inherently good or evil.

Bitcoin mining is location agnostic. It can establish itself anywhere in the world as long as there's internet.

This allows miners to locate in places with a good supply of green energy, which can help set up new energy companies.

At landfills, methane can be captured and burned via a generator, so that it does not end up in the air. The resulting heat drives a turbine, which in this case provides power for Bitcoin mining.

By the beginning of 2025, the use of renewable energy will make the bitcoin network emission-neutral or negative. Currently, the use of green energy by bitcoin mining is around 70%. That is considerably higher than the 35% green electricity in most European industrial areas.

The anti-Bitcoin propaganda often refers to "too much" electricity consumption "per transaction".

However, this is a misrepresentation.

Bitcoin works per block in a decentralized network, not per transaction. Dividing the total consumption by the number of transactions would be the same as calculating the emissions of public transport via the number of wheel rotations of buses. In dubious reports it is also often stated that bitcoin mining works via the same energy composition as ordinary households.

Bitcoin is scalable through solutions such as the Lightning Network and offers a cheap, useful solution for global value transfer compared to the polluting nature of gold mining, the wastefulness of traditional banking and fiat money.

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