Energy, Environment and Sustainability of Green Buildings

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1.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Nowadays energy is taken for granted, nobody can imagine life without energy, and it's never thought that it may finish someday. It wasn't until the year 1973 when the world especially the United States of America realized the importance of energy, and that since the industrial revolution and it has been the backbone of any country, therefore stopping fuel means the paralysis of the country. That was what happened in 1973 during the October War (Yom Kippur War) between Egypt, Syria and Israel, when King Fahd of Saudi Arabia stopped exporting oil to the western countries. The aftermath of that decision was felt harshly in the western countries specially the United States of America. In America for the first time there was no fuel for cars and power plants there were blackouts around the country, even some military equipment was put to a halt during this crisis shown in Figure 1.

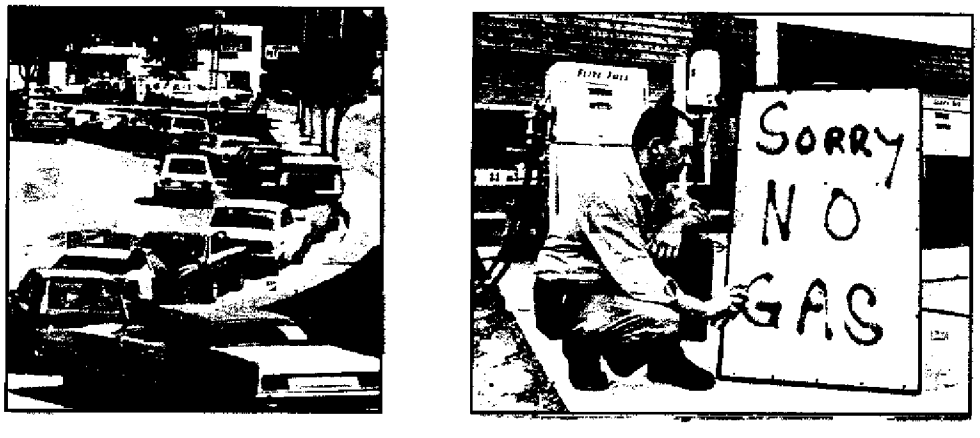

Figure 1: USA 1973 Crisis, Internet

This Incident triggered an alarm to the world. Fossil fuel does not last forever. Since that day, the world started to search for a replacement for fossil fuel and to stop depending solely on fossil fuel, so that the 1973 crisis will not happen again, because if it happens again it would be long lasting and with harsher effects on the world economy.