



International Journal of Innovative Research in Science Engineering and Technology (IJIRSET)

(A Monthly, Peer Reviewed, Refereed, Scholarly Indexed, Open Access Journal)



Impact Factor: 8.699

Volume 15, Special Issue 1, January 2026

Generation of Electricity from Waste Materials

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ABSTRACT: Plastic waste has become a major environmental concern due to its non-biodegradable nature and improper disposal methods, leading to severe pollution and health hazards. This project presents the design and development of an innovative Waste Plastic to Energy Conversion System, aimed at transforming plastic waste and garbage into useful energy and reusable resources. The system utilizes controlled heating panels to thermally process plastic waste, generating heat energy that is further converted into electrical energy. The generated electricity is stored in a battery and used to power low-power electrical loads such as light bulbs, demonstrating the practical application of waste-to-energy technology.

To address the environmental impact of plastic combustion, the project incorporates a pollution control mechanism. The smoke produced during the burning process is captured and passed through a pollution filter that traps harmful gases and carbon particles. The collected carbon residue is then processed and converted into ink, which can be used for painting and writing applications, thereby promoting material recycling alongside energy generation. This project provides a sustainable and eco-friendly solution for plastic waste management by reducing pollution, generating renewable energy, and producing value-added by products. By integrating waste management, energy recovery, and environmental protection, the proposed system highlights an effective approach toward environmental conservation and sustainable engineering practices, making it suitable for addressing both environmental and energy related challenges.

KEYWORDS: Plastic Waste, Waste-to-Energy, Pollution Control, Carbon Ink, Renewable Energy.

I. INTRODUCTION

Plastic has become an essential material in modern life due to its low cost, lightweight nature, and wide range of applications. However, the excessive use of plastic and improper disposal practices have resulted in serious environmental issues. Plastic waste is non-biodegradable and remains in the environment for hundreds of years, leading to land pollution, water contamination, and harm to human and animal life. Open burning of plastic waste releases toxic gases and particulate matter, contributing significantly to air pollution and health hazards.

With the rapid increase in global energy demand and the depletion of conventional energy resources, there is a growing need to explore alternative and sustainable energy solutions. Plastic waste, having a high calorific value, can be effectively utilized as a source of energy when processed under controlled conditions.

This project presents the design and development of a **Waste Plastic to Energy Conversion System** that transforms plastic waste into electrical energy. The system uses heating panels to thermally process plastic waste, generating heat energy which is then converted into electrical energy. The generated electricity is stored in a battery and used to power basic electrical loads such as light bulbs, demonstrating the practical application of the system. To minimize the environmental impact of plastic combustion, the project incorporates a pollution control mechanism. The smoke produced during the burning process is collected and passed through a pollution filter, which captures harmful gases

and carbon particles. The carbon residue obtained from this process is further processed and converted into ink, which can be used for painting and creative applications. This approach promotes recycling and ensures better utilization of waste byproducts.

The proposed system provides an integrated and sustainable solution for plastic waste management by combining energy generation, pollution control, and resource recovery. explain how innovative engineering solutions can contribute to environmental protection and efficient waste utilization, making this project a meaningful step toward sustainable development and cleaner energy production.

II. FEATURES OF GEFWM

The proposed system for **Generation of Electricity from Waste Materials** includes several innovative and practical features that make it efficient, eco-friendly, and suitable for small-scale applications. The key features of the project are as follows:

1. Waste-to-Energy Conversion

The system effectively converts waste materials such as plastic, paper, and dry biomass into usable electrical energy, reducing dependency on conventional energy sources.

2. Utilization of Thermoelectric Technology

Thermoelectric Generator (TEG) modules are used to convert heat energy directly into electrical energy based on the Seebeck effect, eliminating the need for mechanical moving parts.

3. Pollution Control Mechanism

A charcoal and sand-based filtration system is incorporated to reduce harmful smoke and gaseous emissions generated during waste combustion.

4. Carbon Collection and Reuse

Carbon soot produced during the burning process is collected using a carbon plate and reused for ink preparation, promoting recycling and value addition of waste byproducts.

5. Energy Storage Facility

The electricity generated is stored in a rechargeable battery, allowing continuous power supply even after the combustion process stops.

6. Low-Cost and Simple Design

The system uses easily available components and simple construction methods, making it cost-effective and easy to fabricate, operate, and maintain.

7. Compact and Portable Structure

The compact design enables installation in small spaces and makes the system suitable for educational demonstrations and small-scale deployments.

8. Environment-Friendly Operation

By reducing waste volume, controlling emissions, and promoting renewable energy generation, the system supports sustainable and eco-friendly practices.

9. Scalability

The project can be expanded by increasing the number of thermoelectric modules or improving combustion efficiency to generate higher power output.

10. Educational and Practical Application

The project serves as an excellent learning platform for students to understand waste management, renewable energy, and thermoelectric power generation concepts.

III. CONCEPT

The concept of the proposed system is based on the efficient utilization of waste materials as a source of energy while minimizing environmental pollution. The project follows the **waste-to-energy (WTE)** principle, where waste materials—especially plastic and other combustible garbage—are converted into useful electrical energy through controlled thermal processing.

The core idea involves **burning waste materials in a controlled combustion chamber (fire box)** to generate heat energy. Plastic waste possesses a high calorific value, making it suitable for energy extraction. The heat produced during combustion is captured and transferred to **thermoelectric generator (TEG) modules**, which convert thermal energy directly into electrical energy using the **Seebeck effect**. When a temperature difference is created across the TEG modules, an electric voltage is generated without any moving mechanical parts.

The electrical energy produced by the TEG modules is initially in low and fluctuating DC form. This output is passed through a **rectification and filtering circuit** consisting of diodes, capacitors, and resistors to obtain a stable DC voltage. The stabilized power is then stored in a **rechargeable battery**, which allows the generated electricity to be used later for powering small electrical loads such as LED bulbs.

Overall, the concept integrates **energy generation, pollution control, and waste recycling** into a single system. By converting waste into electrical energy and reusable byproducts, the proposed model provides a sustainable, low-cost, and eco-friendly solution for waste management and small-scale power generation.

IV. OVERALL WORKING OF THE SYSTEM

The overall working of the Generation of Electricity from Waste Materials system is based on converting heat energy produced from waste combustion into electrical energy while controlling pollution and reusing byproducts. The complete operation of the system can be explained in the following steps:

When we start burning the waste material in the burning box the heating panels will start collecting the generated heat energy by waste material in the burning box. The heat energy collected by heating panel will be converted into the electrical energy. The generated electrical energy will be seen in circuit box with led glowing. The generated electrical energy will transfer to the batteries through the power boosters. The batteries will not dissipate the energy back because a diode is connected to it. The batteries relate to the heat sensor and LED bulbs. Whenever the heat sensor will start conducting the batteries allow energy to flow and LED bulbs will start conducting.

Working Summary

The system converts waste → heat → electricity → stored energy → usable output, while simultaneously reducing pollution and recycling combustion byproducts. This integrated approach makes the system efficient, eco-friendly, and suitable for small-scale applications.

V. FUTURE SCOPE OF GEFWM

proposed system for **Generation of Electricity from Waste Materials** has significant potential for further development and large-scale implementation. With advancements in technology and increased focus on sustainable energy solutions, the scope of this project can be expanded in the following ways:

1. Large-Scale Implementation

The system can be scaled up to handle municipal solid waste for higher power generation, making it suitable for urban waste management and industrial applications.

2. Improved Energy Conversion Efficiency

Advanced thermoelectric materials with higher efficiency can be used to increase electrical output from the same amount of waste heat.

3. Automation and Smart Monitoring

The inclusion of IoT-based sensors and controllers can enable real-time monitoring of temperature, emissions, and power output, improving safety and efficiency.

4. Advanced Pollution Control Techniques

More efficient filtration methods such as activated carbon filters or electrostatic precipitators can be implemented to further reduce emissions and meet industrial pollution standards.

5. Commercial and Rural Applications

The generated electricity can be utilized for street lighting, rural electrification, small industries, and agricultural applications in remote areas.

6. Educational and Research Expansion

The system can be used as a learning and research platform for students to explore waste management, renewable energy, and thermoelectric power technologies.

VI. CONCLUSION

The project “Generation of Electricity from Waste Materials” demonstrates a simple and eco-friendly method of converting waste, especially plastic, into electrical energy. Heat generated from controlled waste combustion is converted into electricity using thermoelectric modules and stored in a battery to power small loads like LED bulbs. The system also includes a pollution control mechanism that reduces harmful emissions and collects carbon residue, which is reused as ink. This project effectively addresses waste management, energy generation, and environmental protection.

Overall, the project proves that waste can be a valuable energy resource and offers a low-cost, sustainable solution suitable for small-scale and educational applications.

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