Chapter 17 - Myth: Oil is Dirty

**What are the downsides of biomass based fuels?**

Biomass based fuels require large tracts of land to be used to produce the required biomass. The clearing of this land can cause massive releases of carbon dioxide as well as destroyin habitat. Additionally, they tend to be unclean burning, releasing noxious gasses and particulates into the atmosphere. This has the potential t melt polar icecaps as the particulates settle on ice caps, making them darker, and increases indoor air pollution from combustion gasses entering the home through improperly sealed stoves and furnaces.

**Why are fossil fuels seen as the answer to biomass fuel sources and not other novel renewable sources?**

Fossil fuels present a ready supply of fuel based on proven and inexpensive technology with relatively inexpensive infrastructure required as compared to wind and solar energy sources.