The Evolution of Energy

Coal

- The transition from wood to coal was gradual over time but employed over 860,000 miners by the end of the 1920s.
- The coal industry reached peak employment with over 860,000 miners employed.
- The widespread use of coal as a preferred energy source became economically beneficial by the 1880s.

Nuclear

- The price of coal quickly declined as adoption spread with the price per ton falling to $3 in the 1850s from $7 to $10 in the 1830s.
- The Chicago World's Fair showcased 15 windmill demonstrations, marking a step towards renewable energy.
- Edison patented the incandescent light bulb in 1879, revolutionizing the world's energy consumption.

Natural Gas

- The development of the gas industry enabled the natural gas industry to boom, resulting in an economic benefit of using coal as a preferred energy source.
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