



Conference: Global Energy Systems - June 26-28 2013

Posted by [Rembrandt](#) on December 17, 2012 - 3:20pm

Our energy system is evolving due to depletion of cheap fossil fuels and the need for carbon emission constraints. Government and business are under pressure to tackle the energy challenges of rising energy costs, energy security, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We witness rapid changes across countries as this evolution takes place, steered both by markets (investment decisions) and government (policy decisions).

It is essential for energy professionals to stay well informed with the latest insights in this evolving world. For this reason, Euan Mearns of The Oil Drum, myself and several others, are organizing the first three-day [Global Energy Systems conference](#), which will take place in Edinburgh, United Kingdom from June 26 - 28 2013. The conference is meant to deliver key updates on the most pressing energy issues and challenges facing our energy system, as well as providing a forum for exchange of substantially different viewpoints. It is supported by several universities and research institutes including University of Aberdeen, University of Edinburgh, Oxford Research Group, Chatham House and others.



The scope is deliberately very broad, covering most primary energy sources, so that a global view of the current energy system can be presented. [Session topics](#) include “the limits to easily accessible fossil fuels”, “frontier fossil fuel technologies and basins”, “the viability of nuclear power”, “the costs and benefits of fossil versus renewable electricity”, and “the economics and policy of energy systems”. A few of our confirmed speakers include Michael Kumhof (IMF), Sir David King (Oxford University), Arthur Berman (The Oil Drum), Ian Emsley (World Nuclear Association), Lord Ron Oxburgh (House of Lords UK Parliament), Peter Jackson (IHS CERA), and Thomas Ahlbrandt (former USGS WPA, Ahlbrandt Consulting).

Read below the fold for an overview of the conference programme and confirmed speakers to date.

Conference Partners:



General information

1st [Global Energy Systems Conference](#)

[Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh, United Kingdom](#)

Wednesday June 26 to Friday June 28, 2013

Registration will open Friday 14 December 2012



Fossil fuels in a changing world

globalshift.co.uk for oil and gas charts & data
OxfordResearchGroup
building bridges for global security

CHATHAM HOUSE
Independent thinking on international affairs

**UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN**

General interest, media and sponsorship enquiries

The conference is organized on a non-profit basis by a group of energy professionals concerned about the challenges that we face. Any expressions of interest, suggestions for content and analysis, and contributions of sponsorship, are most welcome. Your content, media, and sponsorship related communication can be directed to: [alexr at scenetwork.co.uk](mailto:alexr@scenetwork.co.uk)

Conference Programme per 10 December 2012

Day 1 – Fossil Fuels: Can we turn Unconventional into Conventional?

Conference Opening		
08:00 – 09:00	Registration Coffee & tea	
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome and Sponsor addresses	Program Committee and Sponsors
09:30 – 10:25	Keynote Address on the Global Energy Challenges	Lord Ron Oxburgh, House of Lords UK Parliament
10:25 – 10:50	Coffee & tea	

The Limits to Easily Accessible Fossil Fuels		
10:50 – 11:15	Fossil Fuel Production forecasts: analysis of resource and reserve assumptions and model mechanics	Joint Paper convened by Dr. Roger Bentley
11:15 – 11:40	Perspectives on China's Coal Industry and Future	Kevin Jianju Tu, Senior Associate Carnegie
11:40 – 12:05	World Oil Upstream Development Outlook, Production, Technology, and Cost.	Dr. Peter Jackson, Head of Research IHS CERA
12:05 – 12:30	Russia's Natural Gas Outlook: Yamal Peninsula & Arctic (Case Study)	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	

Frontier Fossil Fuel Technologies and Basins		
13:30 – 13:55	The future of US shale/tight oil	Dr. Kenneth Chew
13:55 – 14:20	Oil and gas recovery from continuous (unconventional) resources: Technology innovation options for improving the economic baseline	Dr. Ruud Weijermars, Director TU/Delft Unconventional Gas Research Initiative
14:20 – 14:55	Enhanced Oil Recovery - The 300 billion barrel Question	
14:55 – 15:10	Refreshment Break	
15:10 – 15:35	The technological and economic limitations to unlock coal resources	
15:35 – 16:00	Potential and limitation of liquefaction of coal and gas	
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee & tea break	
Debate: Energy Scarcity, Threat or Fiction?		
16:30 – 17:30	Viewpoint A: "Upcoming technologies will unlock the unconventional resource base"	
	Dr. Thomas Ahlbrandt, Vice-President of Exploration at Falcon Oil & Gas	
	Dr. Roberto F. Aguilera, Research Fellow Curtin University, Australia.	
	Viewpoint B: "We can't afford the energy, labour and capital cost to prolong the fossil fuel era"	
	Dr. Michael Kumhof, Deputy division chief, Modeling Unit IMF	

Day Summary		
17:30 – 18:00	Closing	Program Committee
18:00 – 21:00	Onsite buffet at site	
18:00 – 19:30	Policy Workshop: The information, data, and policy gaps on the Limits to Easily Accessible Fossil Fuels and Potential to unlock Unconventionals	Breakout group of speakers plus invited delegates

Day 2 – The Future of the Electricity System

Conference Opening		
08:00 – 09:00	Registration Coffee & tea	
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome and Sponsor addresses	Program Committee and Sponsors
09:30 – 10:25	Keynote Address	Dr. Jeremy Leggett, non-Executive chairman Solarcentury, Chairman Solaraid
10:25 – 10:50	Coffee & tea Break	

The viability of Nuclear Power		
10:50 – 11:15	Nuclear after Fukushima, the Global Nuclear Outlook	Dr. Ian Emsley, World Nuclear Association
11:15 – 11:40	The uranium fuel market, prospects and constraints	
11:40 – 12:05	Nuclear & national security, accident probabilities and the need for 100% safe nuclear reactors	
12:05 – 12:30	Nuclear waste and breeders, technological options for re-using nuclear waste	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break	

The cost and benefits of Renewable versus Fossil Electricity		
13:30 – 13:55	The Benefits and Costs of Renewable Energy deployment	Dr. Ulrike Lehr, Institute of Economic Structures Research GWS
13:55 – 14:20	Electricity demand management, (regulations, options, growth, rebounds)	Prof. Gareth Harrison, University of Edinburgh, Electrical Power Engineering Group
14:20 – 14:55	Constraints to scalability of renewable energy sources	
14:55 – 15:10	Refreshment Break	
15:10 – 15:35	The full costs of electricity and storage	
15:35 – 16:00	Innovative electricity storage technologies on the horizon	
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee & tea break	
Debate: The future – friction between unconventional Fossil Fuels versus Renewables?		
16:30 – 17:30	Viewpoint A: "There is no silver bullet to resolve supply-demand tensions"	
	Viewpoint B: "The abundant potential for re-industrialization into a green renewable economy"	
	Viewpoint C: "We can't afford not to burn unconventional fossil fuels"	
	<i>Speakers to be announced</i>	

Day Summary		
17:30 – 18:00	Closing	Program Committee
18:00 – 21:00	Onsite buffet at site	
18:00 – 19:30	Policy Workshop: the information, data, and policy gaps on meeting the Energy Challenges towards the Future Electricity System	Breakout group of speakers plus invited delegates

Day 3 – The Economics & Policy of Energy Systems

Conference Opening		
08:30 – 09:00	Coffee & tea	
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome and Sponsor addresses	Program Committee and Sponsors
09:15 – 10:00	Keynote Address	Professor Sir David King, Director Smith School Oxford University

Understanding the long term balance between Supply, Demand, and the Price of Energy		
10:00 – 10:25	Demand side: The energy intensity of the economy	
10:25 – 10:50	The influence of price risks on policy design and investment	Dr. William Blyth, Director Oxford Energy Associates
10:50 – 11:15	Coffee & tea	
11:15 – 11:40	The capital cost requirements of energy transitions	Dr. Michael Dale, Stanford University
11:40 – 12:00	Demand side: The economic impacts of oil prices	
Panel Discussion on Key Knowledge, Data & Policy Gaps in the Energy sphere		
12:00 - 12:45	Professor Michael Jefferson, University of Buckingham	
	Professor Zoe Shipton, University of Strathclyde	
	More panelists to be announced	
12:45 – 13:00	Conference Summary, Final Sponsor Thanks	

Energy Modelling workshop		
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch with Introduction	
14:00 – 14:30	Selected Individual Presentation rounds	
14:30 – 16:00	Discussion	
	<i>Speakers to be announced</i>	



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