



Global Energy Systems - June 26-28 2013

Posted by [Rembrandt](#) on May 20, 2013 - 10:05am

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 (former Head Smith School Oxford University), Friedrich Schulte (Head of Technologies RWE), Dr. William Blyth (Director Oxford Energy Associates), Peter Jackson (IHS CERA), Lord Ron Oxburgh (House of Lords UK Parliament), Richard Stainsby (Chief Technologist UK National Nuclear Laboratories), Alexander Naumov (Group Economics BP), Guy de Kort (Shell Vice President GTL), and Tatiana Mitrova (Head Oil & Gas Energy Research Institute Russian Academy of Sciences).

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

Conference Sponsors:



General information

1st [Global Energy Systems Conference](#)**Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh, United Kingdom****Wednesday June 26 to Friday June 28, 2013****[Registration open - early bird deadline passed](#)**

Conference partners:

Fossil fuels in a changing world
globalshift.co.uk for oil and gas charts & data**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**[Day 1 | Wednesday 26 June | Fossil Fuels: Can we turn Unconventional into Conventional?](#)****[Day 2 | Thursday 27 June | The Future of the Electricity System](#)****[Day 3 | Friday 28 June | The Economics and Policy of Energy Systems](#)**

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

08:00

– **Registration | Coffee & tea**

09:00

09:00 **Welcome and Sponsor address**

– 09:40 Programme Committee and Sponsors

09:40 – **Keynote Address on the Global Energy Challenges**10:25 [Lord Ron Oxburgh, House of Lords UK Parliament](#)

10:25 – Coffee & tea

10:50

The Limits to Easily Accessible Fossil Fuels

- 10:50 – **Fossil Fuel Production forecasts: analysis of resource and reserve assumptions and model mechanics**
11:15 Joint Paper convened by [Dr. Roger Bentley](#)
- 11:15 – **Perspectives on China's Coal Industry and Future**
11:40 [Kevin Jianjun Tu, Senior Associate Carnegie](#)
- 11:40 – **The Architecture and Drivers of Future Oil Supply**
12:05 [Dr. Peter Jackson, Head of Research IHS CERA](#)
- 12:05 – **Russia's Natural Gas Production & Export Policy**
12:30 [Dr. Tatiana Mitrova, Head Oil & Gas, Energy Research Institute Russian Academy of Sciences](#)
- 12:30 – **Lunch Break**
13:30

Frontier Fossil Fuel Technologies and Basins

- 13:30 – **The future of US shale/tight oil**
13:55 [Dr. Kenneth Chew](#)
- 13:55 – **Oil and gas recovery from continuous (unconventional) resources: Technology innovation options for improving the economic baseline**
14:20 [Dr. Ruud Weijermars, Director TU/Delft Unconventional Gas Research Initiative](#)
- 14:20 – **Key developments and challenges of Enhanced Oil Recovery techniques and CO2 Solutions**
14:55 [Prof. Mehran Sohrabi, Institute of Petroleum Engineering, Heriot-Watt University](#)
- 14:55 – **Refreshment Break**
15:10
- 15:10 – **The current status of Underground Coal Gasification as a Commercial Technology**
15:35 [Dr. Peter Dryburgh, Wardell Armstrong](#)
- 15:35 – **Gas to Liquids - an opportunity to convert natural gas for use in the transport sector**
16:00 [Guy de Kort, Shell Vice President GTL](#)
- 16:00 – **Coffee & tea**
16:30

Debate: Energy Scarcity, Threat or Fiction?

Chaired By - [Paul McConnell, Wood MacKenzie Consulting](#)

Viewpoint A: "Upcoming technologies will unlock the unconventional resource base"

- Panelist to be announced
- [Dr. Roberto F. Aguilera, Research Fellow Curtin University, Australia.](#)

- 16:30 –
- 17:30 **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 International Monetary Fund \(IMF\)](#)

- [Kjell Aleklett, Professor, Global Energy Systems Group, Uppsala University](#)

Day Summary

- 17:30 – **Closing of Day 1**
 18:00 Program Committee
 18:00 – **Drinks & Networking Event**
 21:00 [Separate tickets available](#)

Day 2 – The Future of the Electricity System

Conference Opening

- 08:00 – **Registration | Coffee & tea**
 09:00
 09:00 – **Welcome and Sponsor address** Program Committee and Sponsors
 09:40
 09:40 – **Keynote Address**
 10:25 [Dr. Jeremy Leggett, non-Executive chairman Solarcentury, Chairman Solaraid](#)
 10:25 – **Coffee & tea**
 10:50

The viability of Nuclear Power

- 10:50 – **Should the UK nuclear programme be a model for the rest of Europe?**
 11:15 [Prof. Steve Thomas, Greenwich University](#)
 11:15 – **The costs and economic viability of nuclear energy**
 11:40 [David Shropshire, Head Planning and Economic Studies, International Atomic Energy Agency](#)
 11:40 – **Trends towards Sustainability in the nuclear fuel cycle**
 12:05 [Dr. Ron Cameron, Head Nuclear Development Division, OECD Nuclear Energy Agency](#)
 12:05 – **Generation IV fast reactors and the re-use of long-lived nuclear waste**
 12:30 [Dr. Richard Stainsby, Chief Technologist, UK National Nuclear Laboratories](#)
 12:30 – **Lunch Break**
 13:10

The challenges of a renewables based electricity grid

- 13:10 – **The Renewables Policy Challenge: Scottish context**
 13:30 [Dr. Nicola McEwen, Director of Public Policy, Academy of Government, University of Edinburgh](#)
 13:30 – **The Benefits and Costs of Renewable Energy deployment**
 13:55 [Dr. Ulrike Lehr, Institute of Economic Structures Research GWS](#)
 13:55 – **Grid balancing and development in an era of renewable energies**

- 14:20 [Andrew Hiorns, Network Strategy Manager, National Grid UK](#)
- 14:20 – **Demand side electricity grid management**
- 14:55 [Alastair Martin, Founder, Flexitricity](#)
- 14:55 – **Refreshment Break**
- 15:10
- 15:10 – **The potential and costs of electricity storage**
- 15:35 [Friedrich Schulte, Head of Technologies, RWE AG](#)
- 15:35 – **Electrochemistry and the energy storage gap**
- 16:00 [Dr. David Fermin, University of Bristol](#)
- 16:00 – **Coffee & tea**
- 16:30

Debate: Where to invest in for the electricity system of the future? A choice between Shale Gas, Nuclear, Renewables, and Coal with CCS?

Chair to be announced Panelists:

- [Dr. Jerome Guillet, Managing Director Green Giraffe Energy Bankers](#)
- 16:30 –
- [Prof. Stuart Haszeldine, Professor in Carbon Capture and Storage, University of Edinburgh](#)
 - [Prof. Alex Kemp, Chair in Political Economy, University of Aberdeen](#)
- 17:30

Day Summary

- 17:30 – **Closing of Day 2**
- 18:00 Programme Committee
- 18:00 – **Policy Workshop: the information, data, and policy gaps on meeting the Energy Challenges**
- 19:30 Breakout group of speakers plus invited delegates

Day 3 – The Economics & Policy of Energy Systems

Conference Opening

- 08:30 – **Coffee & tea**
- 09:00
- 09:00 – **Welcome and Sponsor address**
- 09:15 Programme Committee and Sponsors
- 09:15 – **Keynote Address**
- 10:00 [Professor Sir David King, Former Director Smith School Oxford University](#)

Understanding Energy Supply, Demand, Price, and the role of policies

- 10:00 – **The energy outlook to 2030: Global Trends in energy-economic relations**
 10:25 [Dr. Alexander Naumov, Group Economics, BP plc](#)
 10:25 – **The influence of price risks on policy design and investment**
 10:50 [Dr. William Blyth, Director Oxford Energy Associates](#)
 10:50 – **Coffee & tea**
 11:15
 11:15 – **The capital cost requirements of energy transitions**
 11:40 [Dr. Michael Dale, Stanford University](#)
 11:40 – **The demand side: energy intensity of the economy**
 12:00 [Dr. Sgouris Sgouridis, Masdar Institute](#)

Panel Discussion on Key Knowledge, Data & Policy Gaps in the Energy sphere

Honorary Panel Leader - [Professor Charles Hendry MP](#)

- 12:00 -
 12:45
- [Professor Michael Jefferson, University of Buckingham](#)
 - [Professor Zoe Shipton, University of Strathclyde](#)
 - [Professor \(Emeritus\) Stephen Salter, University of Edinburgh](#)
- 12:45 – Conference Summary
 13:00 Final Sponsor Thanks

Energy Modelling workshop

- 14:00 – **Introduction**
 14:15
 14:15 – **Selected Individual Presentation rounds**
 14:45
 16:00
- Discussion**
- [Dr. M. Kumhof, IMF Modeling Group](#)
 - [Dr. N. Goddard, University of Edinburgh, Arup 4-see model](#)
 - [J. Glynn, University College, Cork, Irish-TIMES model](#)
 - [S. Lochran, UCL Energy Institute, TIAM-UCL model](#)
 - [Dr. J-F. Mercure, Cambridge University Centre for Climate Change Mitigation Research, 4CMR modelling](#)
 - [Simon Davidsson, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Uppsala University, limits to rate of energy change](#)
 - [Dr. Mikel Gonzalez, BC3 Basque Centre for Climate Change, BC3-GCAM model](#)



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