

Seminar:

***Opportunities and challenges for Australia's renewable energy transition***

**Professor Ken Baldwin**

**Date/ Time:** Friday 16 November 2018, 11 am

**Location:** Harvard Room 2 (Centen134) - Centenary Building (ground floor, near 'Trade Table')

**Seminar Abstract:**

Over the next 30 years, Australia will need to transition from being one of the most carbon intensive energy economies in the world, to one based almost entirely upon renewable energy.

Despite the past decade of government policy uncertainty, Australia is now experiencing a renaissance of energy investment in renewables that will kickstart this transition, augmented by the world's highest level of rooftop solar penetration in the general population.

If current industry investment trends are allowed to continue, Australia is heading for 50% renewables as early as the mid-2020s, followed by a much more challenging period to achieve 100% renewables which could potentially happen after the mid-2030s.

This presentation will examine the prospects, challenges and opportunities for this transition, and Australia's potential role as a world renewable energy superpower.

**Speaker Bio:**

Professor Ken Baldwin is Director of the Energy Change Institute at The Australian National University (ANU), and Deputy Director of the Research School of Physics and Engineering at ANU.

Since 2011 he was a member of the Project Steering Committee for the Australian Energy Technology Assessment (AETA) produced by the former Bureau of Resources and Energy Economics (BREE). He is a Board member of the South East Region of Renewable Energy Excellence (SERREE, from 2014). In 2015 he was appointed to the Socio-Economic Modelling Advisory Committee of the South Australian Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission. Prof Baldwin chairs the Energy Cluster of the Australia-Indonesia Centre (from 2015).

Professor Baldwin is an inaugural ANU Public Policy Fellow, and winner of the 2004 Australian Government Eureka Prize for Promoting Understanding of Science, for his role in initiating and championing "Science meets Parliament".

In 2007, Professor Baldwin was awarded the W.H. Beattie Steele Medal, the highest honour of the Australian Optical Society. In 2010 he was awarded the Barry Inglis Medal by the National Measurement Institute for excellence in precision measurement.

Professor Baldwin is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, the Institute of Physics (UK), the Optical Society of America and the Australian Institute of Physics.