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The Feasibility of Rapid Low Carbon Energy Transitions

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Chris Greig is a Dow Chair in Sustainable Engineering Innovation at The University of Queensland (Australia) and a visiting fellow at the Andlinger Center for Energy & Environment at Princeton University. He is a Chemical Engineer and PhD and he is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

Prior to becoming an academic, Chris spent more than 25 years in industry, commencing as the founder of a successful process technology and contracting company which was sold to a major international engineering company.

After that, he held senior project and executive roles in resources and energy, including as CEO of ZeroGen a large-scale carbon capture and storage (CCS) project, and has been Deputy Chairman of Gladstone Ports Corporation (one of Australia's largest energy export hubs), Chairman of the Energy Policy Institute of Australia and director of mid-tier engineering & mining firms.

Seminar contents: Climate change is a critical risk and an urgent issue facing society. Integrated Assessment Models and energy transition pathways to decarbonize various sectors of the economy abound the literature, giving policy makers, investors and the broader community, a level of confidence that the challenge can be met. But many questions around transition viability emerge. What critical bottlenecks could emerge to retard the transition? Will we face resource limits or constrained industrial supply chains and manufacturing capacity? Will organizational capacity (industrial, institutional and regulatory) be sufficient to deliver the massive and rapid transformation in systems? What social, behavioural and regulatory trends could affect the pace of change? Which traditional businesses will be disrupted, and how might they respond? This presentation will explore some key regional energy transitions in deep decarbonisation and assess their vulnerability to bottlenecks. Our ability to identify, anticipate and overcome these bottlenecks and constraints holds the key to meeting global decarbonisation targets.

Friday, 6th September 2019 – h 12.15

Room 0.12 – Department of Energy Bovisa Campus
building BL25 - via Lambruschini 4a (MILANO)

All interested parties are invited

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