

Notre Dame Nulungu Talking Heads Seminar Series



A New Partnership, William Roe, 1994

Renewable Energy Development on the Indigenous Estate

Monday 9th September 2019

Venue: UNDA Library Foyer

Time: 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Presenters: Brad Riley and Lily O'Neill

Abstract

The Australian National University's Energy Change Institute's Grand Challenge – Zero-Carbon Energy for the Asia-Pacific – recognizes that Australia is a renewable-energy resource-rich nation, whose immediate neighbors in the Asia-Pacific will account for two-thirds of the world's energy demand growth in the coming decades. Decarbonizing that additional energy use and cutting existing emissions from the region by transitioning to renewable energy sources are essential if the world is to have any chance of avoiding catastrophic climate change.

Co-located wind and solar resources, in close proximity to export possibilities in Asia represent a significant comparative advantage for the production of renewable energy on native title lands in northern Australia. Dr Lily O'Neill and Brad Riley are currently engaged in researching the potential for First Nations engagement with, and benefit from, renewable energy production across scales in northern Australia. They will present on their preliminary findings, as they investigate priority knowledge areas and scope questions of significance to Indigenous people in relation to renewable energy on the Indigenous estate.

Biographies

Lily O'Neill

Dr Lily O'Neill is a practicing lawyer and researcher. Her research interests relate to agreement making between Aboriginal traditional owners, resource companies and the state. As a Research Fellow working on the ANU Energy Change Institute's & Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Grand Challenge: Zero Carbon Energy for the Asia Pacific, Lily is researching the potential for First Nations to benefit from renewable energy developments on the Indigenous Estate.



Brad Riley

Brad Riley is a Research Fellow with the ANU Energy Change Institute's & Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research Grand Challenge: Zero Carbon Energy for the Asia Pacific. Brad has previously held positions with the Centre for Appropriate Technology and Bushlight and has worked extensively with Kimberley communities on renewable energy, demand management and energy efficiency projects with a particular focus on leveraging reliable access to energy for enterprise.

