

Sustainable Energy Policy Cluster Roundtable

Presented by the Sustainable Energy Policy Cluster (SEPC), Griffith Business School

*Friday, 19 March 2021 (Thursday 18 March 2021 for USA)
9:00am AEST - 10:00am AEST / 10am start in Sydney / 3pm start in LA (on
the 18 March 2021)*

Online via Teams - register below for the link

Presentation

Is NEM ready for an extended climate-induced crisis as in California or Texas?

In February, the US state of Texas experienced some of its coldest weather on record. Houston recorded a temperature of -10.6°C , which is around 20°C below average. And Dallas-Fort Worth recorded its lowest-ever temperature of -18.9°C .

It appears Texas infrastructure was not designed to deal with such extreme low temperatures. The cold snap caused chronic electricity and water shortages, and a major disaster has been declared.

The consequences have been bleak. Dozens of people have died and others, especially the vulnerable, have been left shivering in their homes.

Australia does not generally experience such cold winter temperatures. Yet our electricity systems are also vulnerable to climate change, extreme weather and power outages. So, there are valuable lessons to be learned from the Texan disaster.

The Griffith Business School is proud to bring together three experts who will discuss the lessons that can be learned from this terrible event.

Registration information

This is a free event however registration is required. Please register online [here](#). Registered attendees will receive a link to join the presentation prior to the event.

Find out more

For further information, please contact SEPC Leader, Dr Alexandr Akimov on (07) 555 28579 or via email, a.akimov@griffith.edu.au.

Program

9.00am	Official Welcome
9.02am	Introduction Tim Nelson Associate Professor, Griffith Business School
9.05am	Panel Discussion Facilitated by Associate Professor Joel Gilmore, Griffith Business School <i>Speakers:</i> Fereidoon Sioshansi President, Menlo Energy Economics Ross Baldick Professor Emeritus, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Texas Oliver Nunn Director, Endgame Economics
9.56am	Concluding Remarks

About the Presenters

Tim Nelson | Associate Professor of Economics, Griffith Business School, and Executive General Manager, Energy Markets, Infigen Energy



Dr Tim Nelson is the Executive General Manager, Energy Markets, at Infigen Energy. During 2019, Tim was the Executive General Manager, Strategy and Economic Analysis, at the Australian Energy Market Commission where he established its thought leadership and quantitative analysis capabilities. Up until November 2018, Tim was the Chief Economist of AGL Energy and led the company's public policy advocacy and its sustainability and ESG strategy. In particular, he led development of AGL's revised Greenhouse Gas Policy, climate risk disclosure and the Powering Australian Renewables Fund (PARF) concept. He is also a member of the Westpac Stakeholder Advisory Council and is on the Research Committee for the Centre for Policy Development. Tim is an Associate Professor at Griffith University and is widely published in Australian and international peer-reviewed journals. Tim is also a fellow of the Governance Institute (FGIA and FCIS) and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).

Fereidoon Sioshansi | *President, Menlo Energy Economics*

Dr. Fereidoon Sioshansi as President of Menlo Energy Economics, a consulting firm based in San Francisco, California, with over 35 years of experience in the electric power sector. He advises domestic and international clients on strategies to respond to the rapid transformation of the electric power business including utilities, energy intensive industry, innovators, start-ups and companies engaged in electricity delivery supply chain, regulators and policy makers. Dr Sioshansi is the editor and publisher of Energy Informer, a monthly newsletter, and he has edited 13 books published by Academic press. He also holds multiple degrees in Engineering and Economics.



Ross Baldick | *Professor Emeritus, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering,
University of Texas*



Ross Baldick is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin. He has undergraduate degrees from the University of Sydney, Australia, and graduate degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. His current research involves optimization, economic theory, and statistical analysis applied to electric power systems, particularly in the context of increased renewables and transmission. Dr. Baldick is a Fellow of the IEEE and the recipient of the 2015 IEEE PES Outstanding Power Engineering Educator Award.

Oliver Nunn | *Director, Endgame Economics*

Oliver Nunn is a Director at Endgame Economics and is an expert in the design, development and application of mathematical models in the context of the energy industry. He is an expert in wholesale energy markets, and his advice is regularly sought on the implications of changes to policy and macroeconomic factors for the wholesale sector. He has worked with generators, renewable energy developers, and private equity firms, to provide expert quantitative analysis to inform bids for major gas transmission and electricity generation assets.



Joel Gilmore | *Associate Professor,*

Griffith Business School and Regulatory Affairs Manager, Infigen Energy



Dr Joel Gilmore is the Regulatory Affairs Manager at Infigen Energy, with over a decade of experience in market design, market modelling, and technical and economic analysis of integrating renewable energy into the grid. He also leads Infigen's long-term market modelling team and develops business cases for both renewable and firming assets. He was previously a Senior Manager at EY/ROAM Consulting, managing projects such as modelling and design for the Victorian Renewable Energy Target, and has held roles with Queensland Government and AEMO. Joel is published in international peer-reviewed journals in both physics and energy and is also a passionate science communicator across a range of media.

Find out more

For further information, please contact SEPC Leader, **Dr Alexandr Akimov** on (07) 555 28579 or via email, a.akimov@griffith.edu.au.