



# IEEE London Section



The London Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

<http://bluewatersustainabilityinitiative.ca> | <http://london.ieee.ca>

## SUSTAINABILITY AND THE SEMINAR SERIES

### HOW TO REDUCE YOUR PERSONAL GREENHOUSE GAS FOOTPRINT

- Date:** Monday, May 26th, 2008
- Time:** 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
London Central Library, 251 Dundas Street, London
- Location:** Parking is available in the underground Galleria London parking lot. Validate your parking ticket in the Library for 2 free hours of parking during Library hours. Metered street parking is available, enforced Monday to Saturday from 8 am to 6 pm.
- Room:** Stevenson & Hunt Rooms
- Cost:** Free (Open to Everyone)  
Light refreshments will be provided

### AGENDA

#### Introductions

**Maike Luiken**, Ph.D., Chair, IEEE London Section,  
Dean, Applied Research, Business Development & Innovation,  
Sustainability Development, Lambton College

#### Keynote Speaker:

**Peter Smith** - Commercial Manager, TransAlta Sarnia Regional  
Cogeneration Plant

#### Questions and Answers and General Discussion



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## HOW TO REDUCE YOUR PERSONAL GREENHOUSE GAS FOOTPRINT

This two hour seminar is designed to help individuals and householders reduce their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. “Governments at all levels are failing to take any significant action to tackle this important issue, and so it’s up to us to do what we can now and to let government and industry know what we expect of them” said workshop leader, Peter Smith, “we can’t just wait for them to finally get the message.”

Moving beyond the “debate” on whether global warming is caused by human activity, the seminar will provide a review of the science before leading each participant through a detailed calculation of their emissions. The seminar will be divided into three sections looking at practical solutions to reduce the emissions associated with transportation, household and lifestyle choices “during which participants will get some surprises when they learn how everyday actions, such as their food choices can have a dramatic impact on emissions” promised Smith. As an example, Smith calculates that a Kiwi fruit flown from New Zealand to Canada is responsible for 8 times its own weight in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

“Canadians may be surprised to learn that per person they consume almost 25% more primary energy (coal, oil, gas, nuclear and hydro) than Americans, in fact as a whole Canada uses as much primary energy as the entire continent of Africa – the equivalent of 10 tonnes of oil per person” said Smith.

### BIOGRAPHY

**Mr. Peter Smith** has worked for TransAlta for the last four years as Commercial Manager, of their Sarnia Regional Cogeneration Plant, the largest Co-generation plant in Canada. Prior to that he worked for Bayer for 16 years as Energy Manager where his duties included managing site energy supply and consumption, and the management of the powerplant which is now owned by TransAlta. He has a degree in Nuclear Engineering and over 30 years experience in the energy business, having worked in Nuclear, Coal fired, Gas and Oil fired plants and more recently in the development of wind generation. He first learned of global warming as a university student and continued to retain an interest. He has written several articles and spoken widely on the issue. Frustrated by the lack of government action, he believes it is now up to individuals to take action. He lives in Bright’s Grove with his wife and a houseful of animals. He also has two grown children, a son who lives in London and a daughter in Cambridge.



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