

SUSTAINABILITY AND THE SEMINAR SERIES

Why the Lights Always Come On When You Flick The Switch **Balancing Electricity Consumption with Generation**

Date: Thursday Sep 9th, 2010
Time: 7pm - 9pm
Location: Lambton College - 1457 London Road, Sarnia, ON
Room: Lambton Residence—Ballroom A
Cost: **Free**

Introduction

Maike Luiken, Ph.D., Chair, IEEE London Section,
Dean, Applied Research & Sustainable Development

Keynote

Why the Lights Always Come On When You Flick The Switch -
Balancing Electricity Consumption with Generation

Keynote Speaker

Peter Smith - Commercial Manager, TransAlta Sarnia Regional Cogeneration Plant

Q & A—General Discussion



Beverages will be provided

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Why the Lights Always Come On When You Flick The Switch

Balancing Electricity Consumption with Generation

Abstract

Electricity may be an almost perfect source of energy for most purposes, but it has one problem - it can't be stored in any useful amount and has to be generated at exactly the same rate as it is consumed. With consumption of electricity in Ontario varying constantly, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is required to keep generation and consumption in balance, while ensuring system reliability, and doing all of this as economically as possible.



Bio

Peter Smith has worked for TransAlta for the last seven years. As Commercial Manager, Eastern Canada, he has responsibility for four gas fired plants including their Sarnia Regional Cogeneration Plant, the largest Co-generation plant in Canada, five small hydraulic plants and two large wind farms. 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 35 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.

