

MEDIA RELEASE

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: MONDAY, 18 JULY 2011

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Free lectures on carbon pricing and storage

The University of Tasmania will host two lectures this week, which together will provide a comprehensive overview of carbon storage and carbon pricing.

Both lectures are aimed at the general public and are free.

Tonight, the State Minister for Climate Change, Cassy O'Connor, will host a lecture entitled *A Carbon Price – What it Means for You*, featuring Senator Christine Milne.

Ms Milne, Deputy Leader of the Australian Greens and Deputy Co-Chair of the Multi-Party Climate Change Committee, will speak about how the price on carbon will affect Tasmanians and how it will change Australia's emissions profile.

The second event, entitled *Forests and Carbon* – part of the Royal Society of Tasmania's winter lecture series - will include talks from three experts on carbon emissions and storage. This lecture will be hosted by Professor Peter Rathjen, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania.

A director of the company Natural Resource Planning, Alistair Graham, will explore the implications for forest policy of the Kelty Report.

Dr Jen Schweitzer, from the university's School of Plant Science, will discuss maximising soil carbon storage.

A study published in the journal *Science* last week, co-authored by CSIRO's Dr Pep Canadell, estimated that the world's established forests remove 2.4 billion tonnes of carbon per year from the atmosphere – equivalent to one-third of current annual fossil fuel emissions.

However, according to Dr Schweitzer, emissions reduction remains the most important strategy.

“Carbon storage in plants and soils is only one of a suite of strategies we can employ to help reduce the effects of CO₂.”

The third speaker is Tim Woods, a principal of CarbonEdge, a company that aspires to be Australia's leading intelligence service on carbon markets and climate change. He will discuss carbon pricing.

Tonight's lecture with Cassy O'Connor and Senator Christine Milne, presented as part of the Tasmanian Climate Change Office's Blue Skies Series, is scheduled for 6.30 in the Stanley Burbury Theatre, Sandy Bay campus.

The Forests and Carbon lecture, presented by the Royal Society of Tasmania, is scheduled for 7.30pm tomorrow [Tuesday], also in the Stanley Burbury Theatre, Sandy Bay campus.

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