

PEAK OIL

Economic, Political & Environmental Impacts

The rapid rise in price of oil is either discounted as a temporary aberration by some, or seen as a portent of the Apocalypse by others. Have we, in fact, come off Hubbert's peak – has the demand for oil outstripped the supply? Is the Age of Oil over? If so, how will this impact our economy? Are alternative energy sources viable? What is the connection between peak oil and global warming?

Professor Bob Lloyd (Geology, Otago) will present his paper *The End of Oil*, in which he evaluates doomsday pronouncements, optimistic shibboleths and hard statistical data. **Dr Brian Easton** (Economist) will respond by looking at the political and economic implications both globally and for New Zealand.



Sponsored by the VUW Chaplaincy and the eco-justice group



About Bob Lloyd



Bob Lloyd has a PhD in physics from Flinders University, South Australia and a Master's degree in History and Philosophy of Science from the University of New South Wales. Presently he is director of the Energy Studies Programme University of Otago. His research interests and areas of expertise include: renewable energy, remote-area power systems, energy conservation and energy use in housing. He is widely published

in these and other areas. Bob had taught physics for 10 years when became the Director of the Institute of Applied Sciences in 1988. During this time he was involved in a wide variety of consulting work in Renewable Energy, Environmental Impact Assessment, Analytical Chemistry and Oceanography. He has also worked for the Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT) in Alice Springs where the main emphasis was on technology transfer to Australian Indigenous communities. After two years at for Australian Cooperative Research Centre for Renewable Energy (ACRE), he moved on to be Adjunct Professor at Murdoch University while working as a private consultant.

About Brian Easton

Dr Brian Easton is an independent scholar who researches, writes, works as a consultant and teaches in economic, social statistics, public policy and New Zealand studies. He holds degrees in mathematics and economics from the University of Canterbury, and in economics from Victoria University of Wellington. He is a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, a Chartered Statistician, and a Member of the Royal Society of New Zealand. In 2005 he was made a Distinguished Fellow of

the New Zealand Association of Economists. In May 2002 he was appointed to the Prime Minister's Growth and Innovation Advisory Board. Widely published in academic and popular media, his current major research activities include: distributional economics, economic evaluation (especially of health and the environment), globalisation (he has been awarded Marsden funding for this), growth and innovation, health systems, various public policy issues.

Where : Murphy seminar room 632 – *Easy to find:*

enter off Kelburn Parade (look for the street sign half way up), take the lift

When : 7pm, **26 September 2005**

Registration : No pre-registration necessary.

\$5 charge at the door to cover expenses. Student concessions available.

For more details contact chaplaincy-ecojustice@vuw.ac.nz or call 463 5499