
Industry News

Energy focus

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World focus on solar and renewable energy will centre on Perth with a week-long international symposium starting at Murdoch University tomorrow.

Researchers and educators will be seeking to spur world leaders towards a faster transition to renewable energy to safeguard our future.

It will be the 10th International Symposium of Renewable Energy Educators and its theme is *Lighting the Way*. It will be run in conjunction with the 42nd annual conference of the Australian and New Zealand Solar Energy Society.

The conferences are being sponsored by the International Solar Energy Society and Yogi Goswami, president of ISREE and a leading researcher at the University of Florida, will be the keynote speaker.

He will urge the world to embrace the crucial transition to a clean, safe and stable energy future, for the sake of the global economy, alleviation of poverty and for a healthy environment. He has made similar presentation to the United Nations and at other world conferences.

His White Paper, titled *Transitioning to a Renewable Energy Future*, is a brief for politicians and government administrators on the realities and challenges facing the world in meeting energy requirements for the 21st century.

"Various countries of the world are poised to make significant policy decisions to have renewable energy an important part of their infrastructure," Yogi said. "They are looking for credible scientific, technological, educational and policy-related information from professionals like ISREE."

WA solar architect and scientist Garry Baverstock will present three papers. He has prepared a brief on salient points in the White Paper, starting with the proportion of energy supplied from renewable sources.

The recommendation was for 20 per cent of the world's electricity to come from these sources by 2020, whereas Australia currently had a target of 2 per cent. Garry said he was hoping for at least 5 per cent.

There were a number of renewable energy sources already in use that could be built on with little risk to political positions or economic consequences, such as wind power and solar energy.

Garry said Australia was in a position to take a lead in the Asia-Pacific region.