

Panel Discussion

“The Contribution of Energy Transformation to the Economy”

MC Aditi Varma, Chair, Women in Energy



PANELIST
Steve Edwell
Chair of the Energy Transformation Taskforce



PANELIST
Michelle Shepherd
AEMC Commissioner



PANELIST
Dr Kelly Burns
Research Fellow, Curtin



FACILITATOR
Sally McMahon
Chair, Women in Economics Network WA

Tuesday 13th August
5.30pm to 8pm
Curtin University (139 St Georges Terrace, Perth)
Ticket information overleaf

The Women in Economics Network (WEN) is linked to the Economic Society of Australia. It has been formed to promote and support the careers of female economists in Australia. The objectives for the Women in Economics Network are to:

- professionally connect and support the career development of women in economics
- increase the representation of women at all levels of the economics profession
- promote public contributions by female economists
- encourage young women to study economics

Women in Energy, a subsidiary of the Australian Institute of Energy, is a network launched in 2015 to champion women in the energy sector and deliver inspiration on the journey for our future female leaders. Women in Energy connect, support and inspire women in the energy industry. We do this by developing, promoting and advocating for women through a range of networking, training and career development opportunities.

The Women in Economics Network (WEN) WA is pleased to be partnering with the Women in Energy to bring you some critical thinkers and contributors to Australian Energy Economics.

We are thankful to our sponsors of the Women in Economics Network WA at this event: Spark Infrastructure and Synergies Economic Consulting.

Event details: Tuesday 13th August 5.30pm to 8pm Curtin University (139 St Georges Terrace, Perth)

Please arrive at 5.30pm for networking before a 5.50pm start. The panel discussion will be followed by a Q&A, finishing around 7pm and followed by drinks.

\$40 for members of WEN or WIE and \$55 for non-members and can be purchased at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/panel-discussion-the-contribution-of-energy-transformation-to-the-economy-tickets-67190601899?utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&aff=esli&utm-source=li&utm-term=listing>

Ticket price includes drinks and a grazing table.

A NOTE ON OUR PANELISTS



Steve Edwell is an Economist specialising in energy market regulation and design. He has held various senior appointments in Federal and State Governments across Australia, including responsibility for the implementation of large-scale market reforms. He played a lead role in Queensland joining the National Electricity Market, and in designing and implementing the Wholesale Electricity Market in Western Australia. Mr Edwell has been a senior member of energy regulatory Boards in Australia since 2005, including the Economic Regulation Authority, the Australian Energy Regulator and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. More recently, Mr Edwell was Chair of State-owned electricity utility Horizon Power.



Michelle Shepherd has over 20 years' experience in energy policy and regulation in both the private and public sectors and has been at the forefront of the markets' development across Australia. Michelle was the General Manager Regulatory and Government Affairs at Alinta Energy for 6 years where she was actively involved in energy policy reform and the commercial implementation of policy changes nationally. Prior to Alinta, Michelle spent nearly 10 years at AGL where she played a key role in the development of the regulatory frameworks across Australia. Michelle has also worked for the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, UK Competition Commission and the Federal Department of Finance. Michelle has strong Board experience and a focus on governance. She was the Vice President (Deputy Chair) of the YMCA WA for 4 years and spent almost 5 years on the board of REMCo when it operated the WA gas market. She is a Graduate of the AICD Company Directors Course and holds a Bachelor of Commerce from Curtin University and a Bachelor of Applied Economics from Murdoch University



Kelly Burns is an Energy Economist and Research Fellow at Curtin University (Australia). She has a multidisciplinary background in economics, finance and law, having graduated with a B.Eco (hons) and L.L.B (hons) from Latrobe University in 2002, a Graduate Diploma Financial Planning (PS146) from FINSIA in 2008 and a PhD from RMIT in 2014. Her research interests include the drivers and impacts of movements in commodity prices, renewable energy investment and policy, trends in energy consumption, transitioning to a green low-carbon economy and the decommissioning of offshore oil and gas infrastructure. Kelly has extensive experience undertaking evidence based policy research and development for the public sector as well as a successful career in finance and international monetary economics. She has an extensive academic publication record and is an Energy Economics Leader for the International Association of Energy Economics. Her work is internationally recognised and she is invited regularly to present her research and give keynote speeches across Japan, China and North America



Sally McMahon has 25 years' experience in the energy and utility sector specialising in economic regulation, competition policy and microeconomic reform. She has an Honours degree in Economics from Flinders University in South Australia and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Director's Company Directors course. She has held senior and executive roles with economic regulators, government and network businesses in Australia and Canada and advises energy businesses across the energy supply chain on navigating regulation and energy policy to improve performance. Sally is currently Head of Economic Regulation at Spark Infrastructure, an investment fund with interests in electricity networks in South Australia, Victoria and NSW and renewable generation in NSW. Sally Chairs the WA Branch of the Women in Economics Network, is a member of the Electricity Review Board Panel of Experts in Western Australia and is an alternate director of NSW Electricity Networks Operations (TransGrid).

A NOTE ON OUR SPONSORS



Spark Infrastructure and its underlying investors are the providers of long-term equity capital to build and maintain electricity transmission, distribution and generation assets that support an affordable, reliable and safe electricity system. Listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) since 2005, Spark Infrastructure has interests in \$17 billion worth of energy infrastructure serving 5.5 million customers in South Australia, Victoria and NSW. Spark Infrastructure has interests in South Australian Power Networks in South Australia, CitiPower and Powercor in Victoria, TransGrid and the Bomen Solar Farm in NSW.



Synergies Economic Consulting offers a broad range of economic, business and finance advisory services. These advisory services include expert witness services, microeconomic analysis and modelling, regulatory and competition issues, cost/benefit and financial analysis, health economics, business case development and public policy. Synergies has a genuine commitment to providing rigorous expert advice to a growing and diverse client base in business and government. Through intensive client engagement, we seek to fully understand the needs of our clients. We deliver services that focus clearly on their individual circumstances and needs, while drawing on the extensive industry, regulatory and public sector expertise of the Synergies team.



Curtin University is an innovative, global university known for its high-impact research, strong industry partnerships and commitment to preparing students for jobs of the future