



PROFESSOR AGELIDIS TO ADDRESS MAJOR NATIONAL ENERGY CONFERENCE

Professor Vassilios G. Agelidis, EnergyAustralia Chair of Power Engineering and Director of the Centre of Excellence in Power Engineering at the University of Sydney will be among 47 speakers at a major national conference (Nov 8-10) on the future of energy in regional Australia.

The conference, Energy Futures in Regional Australia, will address the urgent need for rural and regional areas to understand that energy and the way they power their homes, businesses and transport is set to become a vital issue that will determine their viability and prosperity.

“The intelligent grid and distributed renewable energy generation based on wind, solar and other technologies is a challenge and a fantastic opportunity for regional Australia.”

“The electricity grid is being transformed from a highly centralised generation and supply driven development model to a highly decentralised customer focused allowing more environmentally friendly technologies to be adopted” said Professor Agelidis.

Energy costs and supply reliability could stem or fuel growth in regional Australia, according to conference organisers, the City of Greater Bendigo and La Trobe University’s Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities.

Rural and regional areas, especially regional cities, will need to supply low greenhouse gas-emitting energy to attract and keep business as emissions trading comes into play, centre director Prof John Martin said.

Conference speakers from the science, technology, business, finance, academic and community sectors will address the theme, how to create a smart power grid. The Premier of Victoria John Brumby will address the conference dinner.

Innovations such as new technology for homes and businesses to re-distribute their energy demand, renewable energy plants that rely on peach stones, biomass, animal waste and woody waste as well as sun and wind, and advances in technologies for distributing energy will be detailed at the conference.

Delegates will hear from Andrew Livingston, the man regulating Australia's goal to generate 20 per cent of its energy from renewable sources within 11 years. They'll also hear how the nation's first community-owned wind farm is stacking up financially, what's new in printable solar cells, how we can replace 90 per cent of conventional oil by 2030 with less globally harmful fuels and why local government is getting increasingly worried about energy.

The conference runs from Nov 8-10 at Bendigo's Capital Theatre.

Register online at www.energyfuturesconference.com.au or call (03) 5434 6002