



Climate and Energy Decision Making

Sponsored Seminar

Peter Irvine

University of Bristol
Bristol, United Kingdom

Presenting on:

“Should we Geoengineer the Earth’s Climate?”

November 29th, 2010

12 noon

(Lunch served at 11:50 am)

129 Baker Conference Room
Department of Engineering and Public Policy

Seminar Abstract: Geoengineering describes a group of ideas that aim to undo global warming by either removing the build up of CO₂ in the atmosphere or by reflecting sunlight to cool the planet. This talk will focus on sunlight reflecting geoengineering techniques, which some claim may be a cheap and effective way to deal with the consequences of global warming. With results from climate model simulations this talk will try to answer some questions around geoengineering. What would be the impact of geoengineering on the climate? Would the changes in climate be for the better? Should we geoengineer the earth’s climate?

Speaker Bio: Peter Irvine is a PhD student at the University of Bristol studying the effects of climate engineering using reduced complexity climate models. His research interests focus on the impacts of geoengineering-induced climate change and in particular their effect on human populations and ecosystems and how to model uncertainty on these predictions. Irvine’s work has focused on differing regional responses to climate engineering and the effects of model uncertainty on sea-level response to geoengineering. Irvine received a Master’s Degree in Physics at the University of Durham in 2008 with his thesis describing ultra-cold atomic trap properties of a radio-field dressed magnetic nanowire, and is currently a visiting scholar working with Klaus Keller at Penn State University on the uncertain sea-level response to geoengineering.

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