

GREEN ENERGY BLUES

Making Sense of Wind Energy
Controversies in Ontario

October 23, 2012

5:30 - 6:00 pm, Mix and Meet

6:00 - 7:30 pm, Lecture and Q & A

**2017 Dunton Tower
Carleton University**

Ontario's policies to transform the electricity sector now have a three-year track record. You are invited to learn more about the practical realities arising from Ontario's experiences to date at this Sustainable Energy Speaker Series lecture which is part of the Master's program in Sustainable Energy, sponsored by the Carleton Research Unit in Innovation, Science and the Environment (CRUISE) and the Carleton Sustainable Energy Research Centre (CSERC).

The Ontario government's Green Energy Act of 2009 has created the policy and economic conditions needed for rapid deployment of renewable energy infrastructure. The Act's central policy measures include a feed-in tariff, that guarantees investors in renewable energy projects a fixed rate of return, as well as provincial-level planning approvals. While the Act has encouraged private capital to build wind projects across the province, it has also created social opposition to wind, particularly in rural areas. Some communities are struggling to balance the need for renewable energy against the local changes that accompany the deployment of wind.

Dr. Hill's lecture will review the genealogy of this controversy, situating the discussion at a conceptual intersection between place-based environmentalism and climate-motivated energy innovations. The presentation will conclude by examining why this opposition should have been expected, what to anticipate going forward, and what might be done to facilitate a less polarized social and political discussion of the tensions between wind energy deployment and changes to rural communities.

Stephen Hill is an Associate Professor of Environmental & Resource Studies at Trent University in Canada, with education and professional background spanning the fields of engineering, biology, environmental policy and corporate strategy. He was the 2011 winner of the Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the 2011 CMHC Award for Excellence in Education.



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