

Energy, something we take for granted, has steadfastly remained front page news. In the current debate it is sometimes difficult to make sense of what is “clean”, what is reliable and what is happening to our power bills. This talk will go build on some of the basics of energy and discuss options for the future. One of the technologies mooted as playing a role is solar thermal technology because it can provide storage of the sun’s energy. The talk will explain how solar thermal works, the research and projects going on in Australia and around the world at present, and the future.



Wes Stein is the Chief research Scientist for Solar Energy at the CSIRO, and also Director of the Australian Solar Thermal Research Institute. He has led technology development and strategic thinking in this area in Australia for the last twenty years, and has been responsible for over \$50M of research projects at the National Solar Energy Centre. He represents Australia on the International Energy Agency’s SolarPACES body and other international bodies. Prior to joining CSIRO he worked with Pacific Power in the power industry for twenty years.