Global fossil fuel depletion: implications for greenhouse gas emissions and climate change risk

Concerned about climate change impacts? Well, what if someone told you we didn’t have enough fossil fuel left to generate the worst-case greenhouse gas emissions scenarios?

In this presentation, we will look at the underlying factors that combine to create predictive uncertainty in long-term projections of climate change impacts, zeroing in on fossil fuel-derived greenhouse gas emissions as a fundamental unknown in future climate scenarios. The results of (a) a literature review study, and (b) an independent numerical simulation of fossil fuel production, will both be presented, which help to narrow the range of likely emissions scenarios. A significant finding is that the high emissions scenarios (proposed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) are unrealistic for long-term climate change projections. This has profound implications across all fields of climate change risk assessment and adaptation research.

All welcome.

Wednesday, 14 March at 3:30 – 4:45pm
TeleTheatre, Information Science and Technology (IST) Building
Building 47, off Physical Sciences Road, Car park 15 - parking fees apply - www.flinders.edu.au/map

Information on the coming presentations in this series please visit the school website:
http://www.flinders.edu.au/science_engineering/environment/events/seminars/

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