

Robyn Williams (Panel Chair)



Robyn Williams is best known as the presenter of ABC Radio National's *The Science Show* – which he launched in 1975. He also presents *In Conversation* and *Ockham's Razor*.

He is the first and only journalist to be elected a fellow of the Australian Academy of Science. He has four honorary doctorates, and is a visiting professor at the University of NSW, Queensland and Balliol College, Oxford.

His latest books include *Scary Monsters* and *Bright Ideas* and a novel *2007 – A True Story about To Happen*, a funny story about the possible end of civilisation as we know it.

In a former life Robyn appeared on television in *Monty Python* and *Dr. Who*, played one of the twelve disciples in Denis Potter's play *Son of Man* and was a stand-in for Tom Jones in the singer's most extravagant series.

Dr Ziggy Switkowski



Dr Ziggy Switkowski is the Chair of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation.

He is also a non-executive director of Suncorp, Tabcorp and Healthscope, and Chair of Opera Australia. He is a former chief executive of Telstra, Optus and Kodak (Australia). In 2006 he chaired the Prime Minister's Review of Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy which returned nuclear power to the country's strategic debate.

He has a PhD in nuclear physics from the University of Melbourne and is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

Keith Orchison



Keith Orchison - has been engaged with energy issues for 30 years - 24 of them spent as chief executive of national industry associations dealing with petroleum and electricity developments. He retired as CEO of the Electricity Supply Association in 2003.

Today Keith writes about energy issues - as editor of the Powering Australia yearbook, as the writer of the Powerline blog on Business Spectator electronic newspaper and as a contributor to The Australian newspaper and various other national and international publications.

He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2004 for his contributions to the energy industry and to the development of energy policy.

Burt Beasley



Burt Beasley has been Director, Technology and Innovation with the Australian Coal Association since June 2006.

This role supports the development of low emissions coal technologies by facilitating R&D and demonstration projects for promising Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technologies through the one billion dollar COAL21 Fund (managed by ACA Low Emissions Technologies Ltd).

Prior to this role, Burt spent 35 years in the Queensland Electricity Industry. With the formation of Tarong Energy in 1997, Burt took the role of Chief Executive Officer for the establishment phase and for most of the initial year of operation. He subsequently worked as General Manager responsible for new developments including the \$650m Tarong North supercritical coal fired power station, the Starfish Hill and Mt Millar wind-farms and the Glen Wilga mine development project.

Burt has a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and a Graduate Diploma in Business Administration. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, the Australian Institute of Energy, the Australian Institute of Management and of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.