

Seminar: *The fastest energy transition in human history: a global perspective*

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The world is undergoing the fastest energy transition in human history, driven by the converging growth of renewable electricity, battery storage and electrification. This presentation examines how falling technology costs, expanding manufacturing capacity and accelerating deployment are reshaping energy markets - and why change can move much faster than conventional forecasts anticipate. Drawing on global trends, it explores how solar, wind, batteries and electric vehicles reinforce one another, challenging fossil-fuel business models and changing the economics of energy supply. It considers what this transformation means for Australia's competitiveness, investment decisions and regional development, and how businesses and governments can respond to a transition increasingly driven by economics as well as climate ambition.

Seminar information

Date: Thursday 12 November, 2026
Time: 12:00-13:00 AEST
Venue: Crowther Lecture Theatre,
Building A3 Room 002,
JCU Nguma-bada Campus, Smithfield
followed by drinks and nibbles *(Cairns only)

Zoom: https://jcu.zoom.us/j/89777573344?pwd=clAbK9T8ZJudkY1omeHjbBQ7HoGqjh.1

Passcode: 203822

QR Code: Scan the code below to join us on Zoom

Professor Ray Wills is a Western Australian-based energy-transition strategist, scientist, entrepreneur and public communicator with more than four decades of experience turning sustainability research into practical outcomes. A PhD ecologist and Adjunct Professor at The University of Western Australia, Ray has worked across government, Parliament, academia, utilities, industry bodies and private enterprise. He was Chair and inaugural CEO of the Sustainable Energy Association of Australia, a former Non-Executive Director of Horizon Power, and is Managing Director of Future Smart Strategies. As co-founder and Chair of Sun Bred Power, he helped develop WA's largest hybrid solar-and-battery project at Cunderdin: a $250 million, 125 MW solar / 220 MWh battery hybrid facility operating since 2025. Ray's work spans regional energy sovereignty (including the June report to Farmers for Climate Action "Energy Sovereignty for Regional Australia", electrification, batteries, critical minerals and renewable infrastructure. Recognised since 2011 among the Top 100 Global Leaders in Sustainability, Climate Change and Energy, and named Energy Professional of the Year by the Australian Institute of Energy (WA) for 2026, he continues to help shape a cleaner, more resilient energy future for WA, Australia and the world.

More Information:

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