

Spring 2002 Inaugural Seminar Program

4.00 pm, Wednesday 9 October

Barry Naughten, Australian Bureau of Agricultural and
Resource Economics

*Model-based national energy policy analysis:
some examples of technology assessment*

Venue: Seminar Room 1, National Centre for Development Studies, 2nd floor of J.G.
Crawford Building (13), Ellery Crescent, Australian National University,
Canberra.

Abstract: Recent model-based policy analyses using MARKAL will be reviewed. MARKAL is a 'bottom up', inter-temporal LP model of national energy systems capable of taking account of 'engineering' information in its simulation of energy markets. The model has been used by ABARE since 1991 in analysis of policy issues mainly concerning the Australian energy system, and with a database reflecting its regionalised structure. A key underlying theme for many of these analyses has been the least cost abatement of CO₂ from the Australian energy system. The review will include recent analyses of the future of gas vs coal, and renewables in electricity generation. These issues encompass some implications of policies such as market liberalisation (and implications for investment risk), and the mandatory target for renewables (MREPS) implemented by means of a system of tradable certificates.

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