

McMaster University

Nuclear Seminar



Department of
Engineering
Physics



Canadian Nuclear
Society, Golden
Horseshoe Branch

Dofasco Centre for
Engineering & Public
Policy

SPEAKER: Dr. Patrick Moore

TITLE: Searching for a Sustainable Energy Future

DATE: March 29, 2006 (Wednesday)

TIME: 2:00 – 3:30

LOCATION: BSB B135

ABSTRACT

Nuclear energy is the only non-greenhouse-gas-emitting power source that can effectively replace fossil fuels and satisfy global energy demand. Yet it's clear to me that much of the environmental movement—including Greenpeace, the group I co-founded and helped lead for 15 years—has lost its way, caught up in politically correct ideology and stooping to sensationalism to garner support. There is now a great deal of scientific evidence showing nuclear power to be an environmentally sound and safe choice. According to the Clean Air Council, annual power plant emissions are responsible for 36 percent of carbon dioxide, 64 percent of sulfur dioxide, 26 percent of nitrogen oxides and 33 percent of mercury emissions. These four pollutants cause significant environmental impact, including acid rain, smog, respiratory illness, mercury contamination, and are the major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. I also believe there should be a much greater emphasis on renewable energy production. The two most important renewable energy technologies are wind energy, which has great potential, and ground-source heat pumps, known as geothermal or GeoExchange.

BIO

Dr. Patrick Moore has been a leader in the international environmental field for over 30 years. He is a co-founder of Greenpeace and served for nine years as President of Greenpeace Canada and seven years as a Director of Greenpeace International. As the leader of many campaigns Dr. Moore was a driving force shaping policy and direction while Greenpeace became the world's largest environmental activist organization. In recent years, Dr. Moore has been focused on the promotion of sustainability and consensus building among competing concerns. He was a member of British Columbia government-appointed Round Table on the Environment and Economy from 1990 - 1994. In 1990, Dr. Moore founded and chaired the BC Carbon Project, a group that worked to develop a common understanding of climate change. Dr. Moore currently serves as Chair and Chief Scientist of Greenspirit Strategies, a consultancy focusing on environmental policy and communications in forestry, agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, mining, biodiversity, energy and climate change.

Learn more about Greenspirit Strategies at <http://www.greenspiritstrategies.com/>.