

Renewable Energy Event Speakers biography



Dr Adam Smith – Director, Reef Ecologic



Adam is committed to conservation and sustainable management of the environment supported by the best available science and working in partnership with stakeholders. He has worked in multiple roles in research, consulting, management, not-for-profit and Boards including the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. He has extensive regulatory, EIA, policy, project, partnership, grant, incident and communication experience in environmental issues and management. Adam has a BSc (Hons) and PhD

from UNSW in 1999, an MBA from UQ in 2003 and he is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. He has authored 45 scientific papers and books.

Professor Rocky de Nys – MACRO, James Cook University

The Centre for Macroalgal Resources and Biotechnology (MACRO) provides research, development and implementation for cost-effective delivery of algal biomass to value-add to mining, mineral processing, power generation, aquaculture and agriculture. The Centre focuses on innovative applied research that can move quickly to commercial demonstration. Industry partner MBD Energy uses the outcomes of this research to create innovative products and processes ranging from food products to biofuels, and biological carbon capture and storage using biochar. MACRO is the recipient of this year's United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) World Environment Day Award for its ground-breaking research into using algae to treat wastewater. The team won the prestigious award in the category *Excellence in Sustainable Water Management*.

Mr Graeme Pollock – National Energy Manager, SMEC

Graeme has extensive experience in the renewable and traditional energy industry over the past 29 years. Technically he has field experience with Transmission & Distribution Systems, industrial electrical, transport lighting & ITS, energy auditing, renewable energy projects and energy policy development throughout Australia, Middle East, South Pacific, NZ, India, Thailand and Indonesia. He has extensive experience in technology deployment, public and corporate strategy, development & construction of renewable power stations, energy efficiency program & project investigation and implementation, and electricity grid

management. Graeme's renewables experience includes involvement in the Alice Springs and Townsville Solar City projects, along with large scale projects Solar CPV & PV, Concentrated Solar Thermal, Wind, Tidal & Wave Energy, Biomass and Biofuels, and he has performed in-excess of 500 AS3598 energy audits during his career.

Mr Alastair Buchan – NRM Planning Coordinator, NQ Dry Tropics

Alastair has a 30 year background in systems ecology and water science. With extensive experience in policy, strategy and action plan development. Currently he works in the field of regional natural resource management planning and environmental strategy development.

He has undertaken organisation and city scale energy and emissions assessments for local government. As Burdekin regional Natural Resources Planner he has become familiar with the energy and climate issues and politics surrounding coal and gas production from the Northern Bowen and Galilee Geological Basins, Lower Burdekin Irrigation area and Townsville.

Alastair is a member EIANZ Climate Change special interest executive and a Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP). He became a Climate Reality Leader following training with Al Gore in 2014.