

2019 SPRING MEETING

EFFECTS OF ENERGY TRANSITION ON OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL AMERICA



Although the US population is predominantly urban, rural America will continue to play a critical role in shaping future national development. The nation's dependence on its rural people and landscapes is highlighted by the fact that energy, water, minerals, and biomass resources (food and fiber) will come largely from rural areas. The energy sector is changing, with renewable sources supplying an increasing proportion of total energy and new technologies altering methods and locations of hydrocarbon extraction. What will be the ripple effects of this energy transition on rural lands and rural Americans? This is an inherently geographical question, as energy-related changes and their effects will differ at different locations. Moreover, geographers integrate component parts of a landscape system to understand their interactions and predict multi-faceted outcomes. In this case, the landscape system is rural America and the outcomes are not only the direct economic benefits of energy production, but also opportunities to enhance the many other functions of the rural landscape and its rural communities in the process of energy transition. The following questions will guide this discussion:

1. What types of changes related to energy transition have already been observed in rural areas?
2. What are the ripple effects of these changes to rural communities and states?
3. What new opportunities in rural areas are expected to be associated with this transition?
4. What new geographic patterns (e.g., of economic activity, human migration, environmental costs and benefits) are emerging (or expected to emerge) as a result of the energy transition?

Please register here to attend in-person or via webinar:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/geographical-sciences-committee-spring-meeting-tickets-60150396455>

MAY 1, 2019 | PUBLIC SESSION

Keck Center of the National Academies
500 Fifth St. NW, Washington, DC
ROOM 101

12:15 PM	<i>Doors Open – Lunch available for committee and speakers</i>	
1:15 PM	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Carol Harden GSC Chair
1:30 PM	Energy Transitions & the Third West: The Big Picture on Small Places	Julia Haggerty Montana State University
2:00 PM	Energy Transitions & the First West: The Complex Histories of Appalachia's Emerging Futures	Betsy Taylor Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network
2:30 PM	Discussion Period	
2:45 PM	BREAK	

AGENDA

GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCES COMMITTEE
500 FIFTH ST. NW | WASHINGTON, DC

3:00 PM

**Solar Farms, Land Use Conflict, and Techno-Ecological Synergies in
Energy Transitions**

Dustin Mulvaney

San Jose State University

3:30 PM

Discussion Period

4:30 PM - END OF MEETING