

CO2CRC leader receives international award

The Chief Executive of The Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO2CRC), Dr Peter Cook, has been awarded the 2010 Greenman Award by the International Energy Agency Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme for his longstanding national and international commitment to carbon capture and storage (CCS) research and development.

The IEA GHG made the presentation during the final session of the International Conference on Greenhouse Gas Control Technologies (GHGT-10) in Amsterdam. The conference, one of the most significant in the field of greenhouse gas emission reduction, attracted over 1500 delegates throughout the past week.

Dr Cook, a geologist by training with degrees from Durham University, Australian National University and University of Colorado, initiated CO2CRC's work into CCS in 1998 and the CO2CRC Otway Project in 2004.

Dr Cook is the author or co-author of more than 130 publications and has given many international invited lectures and keynote addresses on energy, resource, environmental and sustainability issues and on carbon dioxide capture and storage. He has passionately championed the development and deployment of CCS technology during his recent career.

The Greenman Award is presented to honour important contributions toward harnessing technology for the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions so that the human race can better live in harmony with the environment.

The Greenman is an ancient Celtic archetype of a human face surrounded by or made from growing foliage, which is often depicted on buildings, churches, and cathedrals. It symbolizes the mysteries of creativity, compassion, healing, new beginnings, and especially our connection with nature and the power of humanity working together with nature, the cycles of nature, and "man and the forest."

The International Energy Agency estimates that CCS, which captures carbon dioxide from large industrial sources and stores it safely and permanently deep underground, could be responsible for as much as 19 per cent of the carbon dioxide emission reductions required to tackle the challenge posed by climate change.

CCS is one of the key technologies being developed globally to deal with our growing greenhouse gas emissions and will be part of a portfolio of global options, along with renewable energy, energy efficiency and fuel switching.

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CO2CRC collaborates with leading international and national CCS experts to conduct world-class research into carbon capture and storage. Organisations participating in CO2CRC research include CSIRO, Geoscience Australia, the Universities of Adelaide, Curtin, Melbourne, Monash, NSW, Queensland and Western Australia, GNS Science (NZ), the Alberta Research Council of Canada and the US Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Industry and State core partners supporting CO2CRC are Anglo American, ANLEC R&D, BG Group, BHP Billiton, BP Australia, Chevron, Foundation for Research Science and Technology (NZ), INPEX, KIGAM, Mitsui, NSW Industry & Investment, QER, QLD Department of Mines and Energy, Rio Tinto, Sasol, Schlumberger, Shell, Solid Energy, Stanwell, Total, the Victorian Department of Primary Industries, WA Department of Mines and Petroleum and Xstrata.