



MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR
CHEMISCHE ENERGIEKONVERSION



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Energy Transformations

Perspectives from the Humanities

Symposium, January 17-18, 2017, Berlin

Aim and character

The symposium aims at discussing possible research agendas in the field of energy and resource system transformations and to consider novel theoretical and historical frameworks scrutinizing such shifts. Participants are thus invited to share innovative perspectives and to give strategic orientation both on thematic and methodological issues. Emphasis will be on collective discussion.

Format

Please refrain from presenting a conventional research paper. Presentations are 20 min each, split equally between an introduction into your current research (topic) and an exposition of research questions and possible avenues of inquiry that result from it for future work.

Tuesday, Jan 17

12 am Arrival and check-in at Harnack Haus

1 pm Lunchtime snack

2 pm **Welcome and Introduction to the Symposium**

Robert Schlögl, Jürgen Renn, Benjamin Steininger and Christoph Rosol

Preface

Alexander Auer: *Research on chemical energy conversion within the MAXNET Energy project and at the MPICEC*

2:30 pm **Session 1** (Chair: Christoph Rosol)

Benjamin Steininger: *Fossil or industrial? Natural or artificial? Remarks on motor fuels in the 20th century*

Jamie Cross: *Batteries not included: Towards an anthropology of energy storage*

Per Högselius: *Fuelling Europe: Energy transitions from a transcontinental infrastructure perspective, 1815-2015*

- 4 pm Coffee Break
- 4:30 pm **Session 2** (Chair: Rüdiger Graf)
- Sabrina Perić: *Melting frontiers: Imperial Oil, Canadian petrosience and the permafrost archive*
- Petra Dolata: *Energy cultures in crisis? The 1970s energy crises and energy regimes*
- Thomas Turnbull: *From paradox to policy: the history of energy resource conservation in Britain and America, 1865-1981*
- 6 pm **Roundtable: What is the Role of the Humanities in Studying Energy Systems and their Transformations?**
- Helga Weisz, Carsten Reinhardt, Franz Mauelshagen, Manfred Laubichler
- (Moderation: Jürgen Renn)
- 7 pm Dinner at Harnack Haus
- 8:30 pm **Presentation of project**

Wednesday, Jan 18

- 9 am **Session 3** (Chair: Giulia Rispoli)
- Vincent Della Sala: *Ontological security and the narration of energy in the European Union*
- Isabell Schrickel: *The climate-energy nexus: Modelling approaches at IIASA*
- Matúš Mišík: *The impact of the past: Central and Eastern European legacies and their influence on energy transformation*
- Siddharth Sareen: *Politics, procurement, bail-out and buy-in: Woes and ways for Rajasthan's energy distribution sector*
- 11:00 pm Coffee Break
- 11:30 pm **Session 4** (Chair: Benjamin Steininger)
- Helge Wendt: *Carbon cycles: coal, knowledge and global industrializations*
- Andreas Malm: *In the Shadow of Fossil Empire: Sketches for a Research Project on Steam-power in the Nineteenth-century British Empire and its Implications for the Next Transition*
- Carola Hein: *Studying global petroleumscapes in the Dutch Randstad, China and Iran*
- 1 pm Lunch
- 2 pm **Plenary Discussion**
- Lead: Jürgen Renn and Robert Schlögl
- 4 pm **End of Symposium**