

## Safeguarding Invaluable Environmental Assets in Mining

**Professor Dodo Thampapillai**

National University of Singapore

**2:00pm - 3:00pm, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2012**

Room G51, School of Mining Engineering Seminar Room, Old Main Building (K15),  
Kensington Campus, University of NSW

### Synopsis

The seminar examines the reasons for failure of markets and governments in the context of specific mining decisions that threaten the survival of sensitive environmental assets. Mining on the Liverpool Plains is chosen as a case study. Here coal mining exerts serious pressure on invaluable subterranean ecosystems. As illustrated in the seminar, the causes for both market and government failures emerge from mistaken premises in economics. Such faulty premises are due to the non-recognition of nature as vital element of any economy within contemporary economic theory. The recognition of nature in economic theory by recourse to the laws of thermodynamics and ecology lead to axiomatic changes that could facilitate the protection of environmental assets.

### Biographical sketch of Professor Thampapillai



**Dr. Dodo Thampapillai** an economist at the **Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore**. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Macquarie University where he holds a Personal Chair in Environmental Economics. Dr. Thampapillai held an Adjunct Professorship in the same field at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at Uppsala until 2009. He has over 100 publications including seven books and nine refereed monographs. Dr. Thampapillai's current research focus is on Macroeconomics and the Environment. The revised edition of his text *Environmental Economics: Concepts Methods and Policies* (Oxford University Press) is due for release in February 2013.

This event is organised by the **Centre for Energy and Environmental Markets (CEEM)** and the **Australian Centre for Sustainable Mining Practices (ACSMP)** at the University of New South Wales. CEEM provides Australian leadership in interdisciplinary research in the design, analysis and performance monitoring of energy and environmental markets and their associated policy frameworks. The ACSMP aspires to be recognised by both government and industry in Australia and parts of south-east Asia and the Pacific region as a leading authority on sustainable mining practices

For more information on this session, please contact Maree Magafas, ACSMP Centre Manager,  
[m.magafas@unsw.edu.au](mailto:m.magafas@unsw.edu.au)

**\*Directions:** All visitors are welcome. Room G51 is on the ground floor of the Old Main Building, K15, in the centre of the UNSW Kensington campus. A map is available at  
<http://www.facilities.unsw.edu.au/Maps/maps.html>