



Media alert
Tuesday 15 July 2008

Earth Sciences mega-conference begins next week

Australian Earth Sciences Convention, 20-24 July, Perth

Up to 1000 geoscience experts from across the globe will converge on Perth next week for a global Earth Sciences mega-conference, to hear the latest research on major environmental, geohazard, energy, resources and planetary science issues, as well as other critical issues affecting life on Earth.

The 2008 Australian Earth Sciences Convention will feature more than 135 Australian and international presenters, 450 papers and a wide-ranging program of workshops and field trips.

This major conference on the international geosciences calendar is a must-attend event for leading geoscientists from across the world and many others from industry, government, research and academia.

Its wide-ranging program will cover critical environmental and geohazard issues such as ■ Australia's future energy mix ■ climate change and global warming ■ what parts of Australia (and what infrastructure assets) are most likely to be affected by tsunamis ■ earthquake and landslide susceptibility in Australia ■ groundwater exploration and contamination ■ salinity and environmental degradation ■ risks to food production ■ impacts on the environment from development ■ carbon sequestration ■ clean coal technologies ■ uranium deposits and their production in a global context ■ and alternative energy sources like geothermal energy.

There is also a strong focus on mineral and energy exploration, new technologies and potential discoveries in Western Australia, Australia and globally, at a time of critical worldwide shortages of oil and resources and soaring demand from China and India.

The conference will also focus on an extremely diverse range of other topics including asteroids and their impact with Earth, mass extinctions, the formation and future of Earth and the Solar System, marine ecosystems, major fossil finds and what they can tell us, findings from recent (and current) missions to Mars and how they can help us to better understand the Earth, and geo-tourism opportunities.

Effectively several major conferences wrapped into one, the Convention boasts five key streams – Resources – foundation for our future ■ Geoscience in the service of society ■ The evolution of life and the solar system ■ Earth's environments – past, present and future ■ The dynamic Earth – from crust to core.

What: 2008 Australian Earth Sciences Convention
When: Sunday 20 - Thursday 24 July 2008 (main program commences on Monday 21 July)
Where: Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre, Perth

Find the full program at www.iceaustralia.com/aesc2008. Media can access suggested speaker and topic lists (organised into subject headings and state-specific headings), as well as other background material, [on the Media page of the website](#) (abstracts are available from Patrick Daley).

Please phone Patrick Daley (Patrick Daley PR) on 0408 004 890 if you are interested in attending or sourcing stories from this conference. Media planning to attend the conference should contact Patrick Daley this week to register their likely attendance and discuss any technical requirements.