



Screening at Dalhousie University  
Event Report

6<sup>th</sup> November 2012

The turnout to the Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> screening of Switch at Dalhousie University was high, with approximately 250 audience members. The audience ranged from youth (members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Halifax Scout troop working on their Environmental Awareness Badge) to university students and the general public. The evening started with welcomes by Professor Grant Wach (Earth Sciences) and Dr. Martha Crago, VP of Research at Dalhousie. Following the film, a panel discussion and critical review of the film was held. The following energy experts, from Dalhousie University, participated on the panel:

<b>PANEL DISCUSSION CHAIR</b>				
<b>Sheila Lucas, MREM, Research Assistant</b>				
<b>DISCUSSION PANEL MEMBERS</b>				
<b>Dominic Groulx,</b> PhD, PEng	<b>Mary Anne White,</b> PhD, DSc	<b>Lukas Swan, PhD,</b> PEng	<b>Harm Rotermund,</b> PhD	<b>Wayne Groszko,</b> PhD
Professor of Mechanical Engineering	Professor of Chemistry and Physics	Professor of Mechanical Engineering	Professor of Physics	Ecology Action Centre & Instructor in Environmental

General Comments/Discussion:

- Overall the panelists commented that the documentary was interesting, a great film and well done.
- Focus was on generation but not much on demand but everyone recognised the constraints placed on film length
- '1 person' concept for measuring energy usage was considered too open-ended with a large standard deviation. -In some regions e.g. India consumption is 600x less than in North America
- Thorium, wave & tidal energy were not discussed in the film but these are developing technologies
- True cost of energy (including CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, remediation etc.) is not factored in
- Importance of life cycle analyses e.g. wind energy
- Importance of energy storage and not having to design power systems around peak demand
- Thermoelectric materials; superconductors; Issue of intermittent usage of electricity
- Conservation and efficiency are fundamental to solving our challenges

Topics and Comments brought up by audience members:

- Support for the Muskrat Falls Hydroelectric Project
- Concerns on the safety of fracking technology
- Comment on the role of government regulation in the future of energy & energy sustainability