



MEDIA RELEASE

Water Lecture at Charles Darwin University

A global water expert from the United States will be in Darwin today to present a special lecture on hydrology.

Dr Eileen Poeter's lecture "All Models Are Wrong: How Do We Know Which Are Useful?" details how the ground water profession today is searching for appropriate approaches to developing conceptual models, evaluating which are useful, and describing the uncertainty associated with their predictions.

Dr Poeter is a professor of geological engineering at Colorado School of Mines and Director of the International Ground Water Modeling Centre.

Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts water resources principal engineer Peter Jolly said today's lecture would be the second time Darwin played host to such an expert who is travelling around the world as part of the Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecture in Ground Water Science.

Mr Jolly, who is also the NT branch secretary of the International Association of Hydrogeologists, said hydrology models were critical in determining how water is shared by people and the environment.

"NRETA is currently using hydrology models on the Daly River basin as a tool in guiding our allocation process," Mr Jolly said.

"Modelling helps determine environmental impacts depending on where water is taken from and how much of it is taken.

"But I must say our rivers are in magnificent condition and much of that relates to our small population over vast distances."

Mr Jolly said the theme of today's lecture is that while modelling is a critical tool in measuring water allocation impacts it does not provide an entire answer.

"When we have a model it allows us to monitor situations as they develop and measure data against," Mr Jolly said.

Today's lecture at Charles Darwin University is being held in room one of building 22 at the Casuarina campus from 11am.

Ends

Media Note _ For more information contact Peter Jolly on 8999 3606

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