



ESRC-DTC Science & Technology Studies Seminar Series:

From Calculating Risk to Performing Futures Nuclear Power Controversies in UK Media

David Moats, Goldsmiths University, London



This paper reflects on the role of calculation devices in present media debates about nuclear power in the UK drawing on empirical materials from media and social media. I will consider how the material infrastructure of nuclear power and the seeming immateriality of ionising radiation impact the terms of controversy but also how media representations alter the fortunes of nuclear.

I will argue that since the rebranding of nuclear as “low carbon” the controversy has moved from a focus on calculable versus in-calculable risk to an economic frame which makes different energy sources comparable in terms of efficiency, cost and energy security. This shift from risk to economic projection has important consequences for the expert – lay divide in the debate.

28th November, 5pm. Oxford University School of Geography & the Environment, Seminar Room B.

InSIS at Saïd Business School and the School of Geography and the Environment



SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY
AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Institute for Science,
Innovation and Society
University of Oxford



To register your interest, or if you have any questions, email:
thomas.turnbull@ouce.ox.ac.uk or farzana.dudhwala@sbs.ox.ac.uk