

## **TRACK 35. ENERGY USE IN EVERYDAY LIFE - COMBINING SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY AND PRACTICES**

Energy is crucial to society, influencing many aspects of our daily lives, both at home and in the workplace and in daily travel and holiday journeys. At the same time, energy-related emissions constitute a major environmental load. Any major reduction in carbon dioxide emissions will require more efficient energy use on the part of all users. Energy users constitute an important factor in developing and creating an energy system that is sustainable over the long term, and how and when they use energy determines our ability to create such a system.

Despite the fact that interesting studies concerning both energy use and energy efficient technology have been conducted, studies on for example how new technology is implemented in people's everyday lives are relatively rare. Energy use is embedded in everyday life's activity patterns and behaviour. To understand energy use and possibilities to reduce energy consumption we need to learn more about energy use in relation to life style, activity pattern, embeddedness, understanding of the system and so on. Usually we also analyse energy use in relation to concerns how our habits and routines in everyday life can be adjusted or change to meet the demands of a life style with reduced or at least an efficient energy use. But what happens if we change perspective and ask: How can energy contribute to our everyday life and our desire to live a good life? We would like to address questions like how energy use is embedded in everyday life, implementation of energy related technology in households, the influence of social and institutional context on which sustainable energy solutions is made, and so on. Papers with different perspectives on these and related issues are invited.

Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be sent by email (following website instructions) by 2010 March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Convenors**

**Kajsa Ellegård** is full professor of Technology and Social Change, Linköping University, and is an expert in time geography, everyday activity pattern analyses, and household energy use. She has developed visualization methods in interdisciplinary cooperation with visualization experts.

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**Jenny Palm** is an associate professor at Technology and Social Change, Linköping University and her research is interdisciplinary, combining STS theory with analysis of policy, governance, and power relationships. Her research interests concern local and regional policy processes and how households understand and interpret public policy in everyday life. (<http://www.tema.liu.se/tema-t/medarbetare/palm-jenny?l=en>)

**Helen Gansmo** is a senior researcher at Centre for Technology and Society, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and her research interests revolve around everyday life practices and performances which shape and are shaped by the socio-technical systems of energy supply and demand.

(<http://www.ntnu.no/ansatte/helen.gansmo>)