



South Africa's energy sector is facing numerous challenges, all contributing to our current energy crisis and with a direct bearing on our country's future. We must decisively deal with energy security and load shedding, whilst urgently securing broad sector reforms and accelerating large-scale investment. The Energy Council aims to enable a unified strategy and vision for a South African energy transition pathway that will support clean industrialisation and global competitiveness, address our economic and social deficits and importantly contribute to a sustainable environment.



### Message from the CEO

Thanks to the strong support of members, the Energy Council has been growing at a record pace. We continue to expand our member base, have doubled our staff complement over the past 3 months and have quickly become acknowledged as a leading voice in the energy sector.

Despite the many energy challenges we are facing, there is no doubt that we are seeing a positive structural shift. Reform direction is clear and Government as the central role-player has become increasingly engaging and responsive. From my direct engagements with Eskom at various levels, I really do believe we are turning the corner on load shedding and 2023 will be our toughest year.



We must also acknowledge the Eskom leadership and staff for the phenomenal work they are doing under very challenging circumstances.

Under the Business4SA efforts, the Energy Council is leading the business coordination in support of the Energy Action Plan through NECOM, which is gaining real traction and starting to deliver tangible results. Switching to our own momentum and energy leadership, our four standing committees on Energy Transition Strategy; Investment and Finance; Industrialisation and Policy have also moved up a gear. Thanks to the Co-chairs and members who have put in many hours of robust debate and hard work.

Through regular newsletters, I look forward to sharing more detailed updates on progress and key Wins!

### Energy Council of South Africa in the News



#### 'Clear confirmation' of electricity bill delays resolving

The ERA Bill will make way for a competitive electricity trading market and will allow for multiple electricity generators outside of Eskom. Additionally, it will be a vital step in unbundling Eskom and attracting new investment into the utility's transmission grid. Radio 702 host Bongani Bingwa interviews James Mackay, CEO of the Energy Council of South Africa.

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#### Loadshedding is not forever

According to the Energy Council of South Africa loadshedding may end as soon as next year. But this will require a collaborative effort by both Eskom and the private sector. Energy Council of South Africa CEO James Mackay shares his views during an event on self-generation for businesses at Investec's Sandton offices.

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#### Eskom unbundling, ERA promulgation will demonstrate electricity reform 'political will'

Energy Council of South Africa CEO James Mackay believes an expedited promulgation of the Electricity Regulation Amendment (ERA) Bill together with the unbundling of Eskom will send a clear signal to stakeholders and investors that the "political will" exists to place the country's poorly performing electricity sector on a sustainable pathway.

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#### Restore the Power grid | Council optimistic power cuts will ease

At last, South Africans are taking advantage of perhaps our most abundant natural resource – sunshine but the energy crisis presents other opportunities as well. James Mackay of the Energy Council, a CEO-led initiative that brings together public and private sector interests in the energy sector, discussed this with eNCA's Sally Burdett.

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**14 September**  
IHS Affordable Housing Conference

**20 & 21 September**  
Africa Renewables Investment Summit

**28 September**  
Business Participation in NECOM: Feedback Meeting

For more information on upcoming events and updates contact [sonnette.biddulph@energycouncil.org.za](mailto:sonnette.biddulph@energycouncil.org.za)

The Energy Council of South Africa supports the amendment of the Electricity Regulations Act (ERA). President Cyril Ramaphosa unveiled a bold plan of action to reduce load shedding and achieve energy security during his speech to the nation on 25 July 2022. The long-term goal of the plan of action which is called the Presidential Energy Action Plan (EAP) is to completely eradicate load shedding and establish energy security by fast integrating as much additional generating capacity into the system as feasible.

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