



ENERGY COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
2023

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 loadshedding, 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

The business engagement through NECOM is continuing to gain momentum and deliver success. I am often asked what that success looks like, and while business can't make decisions on behalf of government or Eskom, the structured approach with proactive engagement is positioning business as unified, trusted advisors rather than sideline critics. This is positively impacting both the pace and quality of implementation and is something we must certainly celebrate.

Eskom remains "mission critical" to the success of our energy transition, they hold the keys to solving load shedding, facilitating new generation and supporting fundamental reforms, so we need a strong, but reformed Eskom to deliver that.



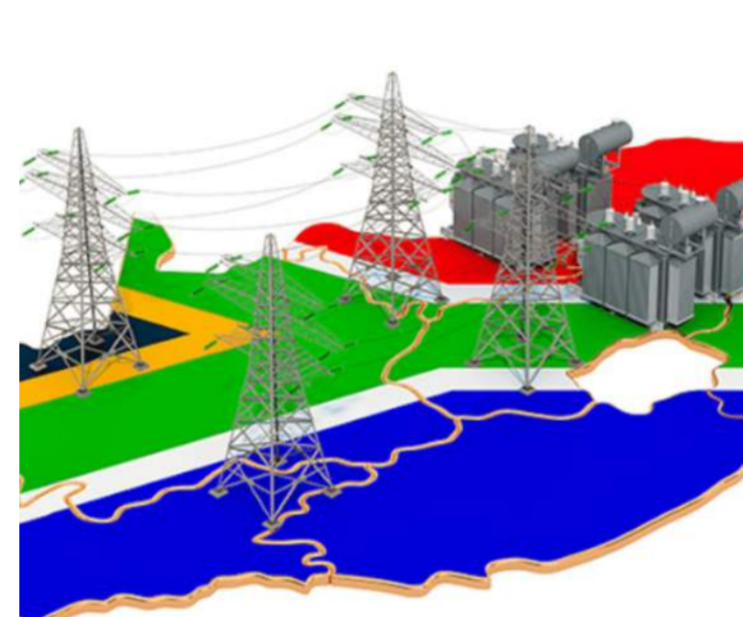
We have not solved load shedding yet, but Eskom are making steady progress on getting back to basics, targeting 8,4GW of power back into the system over the next 18months and business has rallied multiple technical engineering teams directly supporting these efforts. I regard the biggest challenge to be rebuilding the lost people capacity and skills to sustain the turnaround and restructuring efforts.

The Energy Council vision is to facilitate a sustainable and optimal energy transition to Net Zero, so the decarbonisation journey is central to why we exist. An unintended consequence of the power station performance recovery programme is, however, the extended life of coal generation. While solving load shedding is paramount for our economy, it is a concern if this is done at the expense of our decarbonisation pathway, which is equally paramount to our future energy security and sustainability.

I believe we must have a clear sense of realism to be able to navigate these two worlds, which also highlights the true challenge and complexity of the energy transition. We see great headlines from key energy role-players, but we are not getting to the crux of the problem, looking at all angles of this transition, understanding the consequences and trade-offs so that we are actually deliver what is in the interest of all South Africans.

The Energy Council is working hard to develop that understanding and NECOM is a positive vehicle for change where we can embed a partnership to deliver a truly South African solution.

Energy Council of South Africa in the News



In a webinar discussion hosted by the Government Communication and Information Services (GCIS) on the topic Myths and Facts about Electricity Grid Stability, James Mackay's presentation highlighted the importance of balancing an energy transition and he pointed out that recovering energy security will require 'monumental national effort'.

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Business is working to add more than 10 GW of generation capacity to the electricity system by the end of next year, which would effectively end loadshedding in South Africa, Sasol president and CEO, and Chairperson of the Energy Council of South Africa, Fleetwood Grobler said on the first day of the Joburg Indaba on October 4.

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2 November
Free State Energy Indaba | Bloemfontein

15 November
Eskom engagement on the implementation of the Transmission Development Plan (TDP)

For more information on upcoming events and updates contact sonnette.biddulph@energycouncil.org.za

Shaping South Africa's Energy Future – a balanced, achievable and inclusive Energy Transition

South Africa's energy sector is at a crossroads, facing several challenges that will significantly impact the country's future. Whether it is the urgency to decisively deal with loadshedding or ensuring the long-term economic sustainability of the sector while reducing carbon emissions and combating unemployment, it can no longer be business as usual. To address these challenges, it is essential that as a country we unify behind a common vision and pathway to sustainably and reliably transition our energy sector towards a Net Zero future.

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