



# ENERGY COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

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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. This is an exciting time full of opportunity with the potential for South Africa to become a global role model as an emerging market leader through the energy transition.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As we prepare for the official launch of the next phase of the Business – Government partnership under the 7<sup>th</sup> administration, I feel there is a growing sense of urgency and optimism. We are well beyond the usual end-of-year pressure with the most common concern I hear being the shortage of skills and delivery capacity. While not an insurmountable problem in the short-term as everyone works extra hard, and recruitment tries to plug the gaps, this will however become a major crisis in the medium term if we can't sustainably build much higher levels of competence and delivery capacity.



In mobilising participation to support NECOM 2.0 I have found the exact same critical constraint.

Skilled and experienced people are too stretched, and the pipeline of new skills is far too thin. In the public sector the problem is even more challenging.

Our achievements in the electricity sector over the last 18 months have far exceeded expectations, reinforced by the confidence in ending loadshedding. However, major challenges lie ahead such as rising costs, higher emissions, and investor uncertainty. The approval of the ERA Bill and the establishment of a dedicated Ministry for Energy are however providing clearer political leadership and direction.

We must urgently develop clear, risk-adjusted, and resourced implementation plans in the following areas:

- Accelerate private sector investment in new generation;
- Implement complex Market Reform and a wholesale electricity market;
- Strengthen and expand Transmission capacity, and accelerate the role of private sector investment; and
- Support the sustainable Municipal reform (EDI) and capacity building

We are facing a unique and important window of opportunity for South Africa to fast-track the economic recovery from load shedding, and to get back onto a sustainable and Just energy transition pathway. The ability to quickly mobilise large support resources will be critical to success and we need all of business to support in unison.

A big thank you to everyone already contributing their efforts, your work is creating a positive effect. We still need additional support and I urge all businesses to register their participation in NECOM through our website, and to commit to the Business for South Africa CEO pledge to promote inclusive economic growth and job creation.

## ENERGY IN THE NEWS



**Eskom chair confident power utility will be profitable soon**

The power utility is expected to hit a record six months without load-shedding. Eskom is well on its way to recovery, with board chairperson Mto Nyati, predicting it won't be long before the power utility is able to operate without bailouts from government.



**Fixing Nersa is more urgent than deciding on nuclear power**

Minister will need to address constraints at the regulator to keep future energy procurement open and fair



**Ramokgopa says high electricity prices are untenable**

Electricity prices are untenable, especially for the poor, and the methodology for calculating them is under review, energy & electricity minister Kgosi Ramokgopa says.

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**1-3 October:** SAWEA Windaba  
**15 October:** Energy Council Leadership Forum

**22 – 24 October:** Enlit Europe  
**25 October:** Energy Council Board meeting



## SPOTLIGHT ON ENERGY



### Reflections on NECOM performance to date

Our achievements in the electricity sector over the past year, have far exceeded expectations.

The ongoing delivery partnership has been strengthened under the 7<sup>th</sup> administration, and our confidence in ending load shedding continues to grow.

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