



The Energy Council of South Africa is dedicated to fostering collaboration, innovation, and action in the energy sector. Through partnerships, advocacy, and thought leadership, the Council is committed to advancing South Africa's energy transition and ensuring a secure, sustainable energy future for all. In partnership with NECOM, and with the backing of Business Unity South Africa and other key stakeholders, the Energy Council is driving collaborative solutions through initiatives designed to balance economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social equity.



The Energy Council, now in its third year of operations, has quickly become South Africa's leading energy representative organisation. A focused response to the 2023 energy crisis, backed by strategic analysis, has earned the Council a reputation for being able to "get things done." Backed by key industry partnerships, we continue to drive pragmatic, solutions-oriented engagement to accelerate South Africa's energy transition. As our energy landscape continues to evolve, we remain steadfast in our efforts to ensure a secure energy future.



In the past year, the energy sector has made significant strides. Most notable is the structural end to loadshedding, the creation of a dedicated Ministry and the promulgation of key legislation, such as the ERA amendment and Climate Change bills. Policy reforms have gained momentum, with market liberalisation efforts taking shape and investment interest growing. The private sector is playing an increasingly central role in expanding capacity and we are seeing the first steps towards a competitive electricity market. These developments reinforce the need for a stronger focus on implementation.

The collaboration with government and through NECOM continues to strengthen and is delivering positive results, but we must shift quicker from the crisis-dominated approach in 2023/24 to a structured and consistent focus on short-term implementation. While the Business-Government partnership has improved sentiment but hasn't resolved issues like weak state institutions, low investor confidence and skills deficits. Without improvement in these underlying challenges, achieving the targeted scale of energy sector investment (estimated at over R2 trillion by 2035) is unlikely, so we must keep a clear focus on boosting investor and business confidence.

As we battle to come to grips with the complexity and scale of our Energy Transition, it has been very disappointing to see the rapid exit of the US AID support for our Energy Transition. This was a loss to not only the Just Energy Transition Programme (JETP) funding, but also on-the-ground technical support programmes. As they say, every cloud has a silver lining and here, it is a "reality check" that we must face our challenges and deal with them.

2025/26 is a critical period to establish the foundations for consistent and efficient implementation and investment leading up to 2030, which will set the stage for progress through 2040 and 2050. We must persevere in fostering an environment that supports the development of an integrated energy system that meets the evolving demands of the economy while addressing both current and future challenges.

We will continue to champion practical solutions that balance urgency with long-term sustainability. All this is only possible through our partnerships, which remain key to shaping a resilient energy future, one that delivers economic growth, energy security and a lower carbon future for all South Africans.



High borrowing costs are hampering Africa's development

James Mackay, CEO of Energy Council of South Africa joins eNCA News' Masego Rahlaga to discuss the Electricity Minister's call for financiers to lower the cost of borrowing.

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UK Climate Envoy announces support for SAWEM implementation

Rachel Kyte, the UK's Special Representative for Climate emphasised the UK's ongoing support for South Africa's energy transition through the Just Energy Transition Partnership.

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Council warns of looming risks despite loadshedding pause

The Energy Council of South Africa is confident South Africa will remain out of sustained loadshedding for the next three to four years, owing to the rapid growth in electricity generation.

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The Energy Council Standing Committee Co-Chair Strategy Session

On the 17th of March 2025, we hosted our Standing Committee Co-chairs to reflect on the year that was and define a working strategy for the incoming Co-chairs for the year ahead. We extend our gratitude to our outgoing Co-chairs for their dedication and contributions. Their leadership has played a pivotal role in advancing our mission and we thank them for their invaluable efforts. Congratulations to the incoming Co-chairs on their assignment, we look forward to working with you to drive the Council's strategy and thus South Africa's energy transition, forward.



- 3 April: SA Transmission Infrastructure Investment Forum 2025
- 4 April: Energy Council of South Africa Board Meeting
- 9 April: Mining Weekly Gas Webinar
- 18 April: Good Friday
- 21 April: Family Day
- 22 April: UNIDO Accelerate to Demonstrate Workshop
- 24 April: SAWEM - Pushing for April 2026 implementation (Webinar)
- 27 April: Freedom Day (will be observed as a public holiday on Mon 28 April)



SAWEM Roadmap Event forms the stage for critical funding announcement.

The SAWEM Roadmap Event, hosted by the Energy Council of South Africa in partnership with the UK in South Africa and held at member RMB's offices, brought key energy stakeholders together to discuss the urgency of launching a competitive electricity market.

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