The Department of Energy (DoE) is mandated to ensure the secure and sustainable provision of energy for socio-economic development. This is achieved by developing an Integrated Energy Plan (IEP), regulating the energy industries, and promoting investment in accordance with the integrated resource plan.

The department’s strategic goals are to:

• ensure that energy supply is secure and demand is well managed
• facilitate an efficient, competitive and responsive energy infrastructure network
• ensure that there is improved energy regulation and competition
• ensure that there is an efficient and diverse energy mix for universal access within a transformed energy sector
• ensure that environmental assets and natural resources are protected and continually enhanced by cleaner energy technologies
• implement policies that adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change
• implement good corporate governance for effective and efficient service delivery.

The DoE places emphasis on broadening electricity supply technologies to include gas and imports, as well as nuclear, biomass and renewable energy resources (wind, solar and hydro), to meet the country’s future electricity needs and reduce its carbon-dioxide emissions.

Goals beyond 2020 include contracting more than 20 000 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, including an increasing share from regional hydro-electricity.

South Africa has committed to attain substantial reductions in carbon dioxide emissions by 2025. The country supports research, technology development and special measures aimed at environmentally sustainable economic growth.

**Legislation and policies**


The following legislation regulates the energy sector:

• The National Energy Act, 2008 (Act 34 of 2008) ensures that diverse energy resources are available in sustainable quantities and at affordable prices in South Africa. In addition, the Act provides for the increased use of renewable energies, contingency energy supplies, the holding of strategic energy feedstock and carriers, and adequate investment in energy infrastructure.

• The Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 (Act 4 of 2006) establishes a national regulatory framework for the electricity supply industry to be enforced by the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA). The Minister of Energy is empowered to make determinations for the establishment of independent power producers (IPPs) to increase the supply of electricity.

• The Petroleum Products Act, 1977 (Act 120 of 1977), as amended, provides for measures to save petroleum products and the economy in distribution costs, the maintenance
and control of price, the furnishing of certain information regarding petroleum products and the rendering of service. It further provides for the licensing of people involved in the manufacturing, wholesale and retailing of prescribed petroleum products.

- The Nuclear Energy Act, 1999 (Act 46 of 1999) provides for the establishment of the National Energy Corporation of South Africa (Necsa) and defines its functions, powers, financial and operational accountability, governance and management. It also regulates the acquisition and possession of nuclear fuel, nuclear and related material and equipment, and the import and export thereof.
- Other relevant legislation:
  - The Electricity Regulation Amendment Act, 2007 (Act 28 of 2007).

In 2016, the DoE submitted the following legislation and amendments to existing legislation for consideration by Parliament. It was either to be introduced or concluded in the upcoming financial year.

- Amendment of the National Energy Regulator Act of 2004: A new proposed structure will create a two-tier energy regulatory structure, to enable the appeal of regulatory decisions through a body that is not conflicted by having participated in making the regulatory decision in the first instance. The Review Board will create such a body.
- Gas Amendment Bill: The Bill will largely introduce a mechanism that allows the Minister of Energy to direct the development of new gas infrastructure including pipelines, storage and regasification technology for imported liquefied natural gas. The Bill will encompass the midstream elements of the gas value chain, whereas the upstream will be covered under amendments to the MPRDA of 2002. The plan involves separating from the mineral regulatory framework those elements that relate to the petroleum value chain.
- Upstream Gas Bill: The Gas Amendment Upstream elements of the gas values chain, including the exploration and concessioning of conventional and unconventional gas will fall under the purview of the Upstream Gas Bill, the legislation which will be derived from the MPRDA of 2002 separation process.
- The Petroleum Agency of South Africa (PASA) Establishment Bill: Seeks to establish the upstream gas regulator separately from its incumbent CEF state-owned company location. This will conclude the regulatory and institutional arrangements that are necessary to facilitate the concessioning, licensing and exploitation of the shale gas resource that offers so much potential for South Africa.
- The Petroleum Products Amendment Bill seeks to improve the enforcement elements in the licensing framework for wholesalers and retailers in the liquid fuels sector.
- IPP Office Establishment Bill: The IPP Office Establishment Bill will formally create the IPP Office and define its role and mandate in regard to private-public sector programmes in the power sector.

**Budget and funding**

The total appropriation to the DoE for 2016/17 was R7.5 billion. Some 90.2% of the budget was earmarked for transfer to municipalities and state-owned entities (SOEs), while the remaining 9.8% was to be used for the department’s operational and capital expenditure.

The spending focus over the medium term remained on transfer payments to Eskom and municipalities for expanding the electrification programme to increase the number of households with connections to the grid and providing substation infrastructure.

By the end of March 2017, the Integrated National Electricity Programme (INEP) had achieved 301 976 (grid) and 16 922 (non-grid) connections, amounting to a total of 318 898 new connections.

The programme electrifies households through grid and non-grid connections, and builds and upgrades substations and electricity networks.

Transfers to municipalities for 2016/17 were R1.9 billion, and transfers to Eskom were R3.5 billion. The DoE also focused on the implementation of the National Solar Water Heater programme, with the objective of promoting energy efficiency.

Spending of R1.2 billion over the medium term on more than 130 000 solar water heaters was projected. Since its inception, the INEP has completed more than 50 000 installations of Solar Home Systems (SHSs), mainly in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, the Northern Cape and Limpopo. This has improved people’s standard of living.

Non-grid electrification projects, mainly solar energy, were to be extended countrywide. The projects would be implemented in any areas where extending the grid would not be cost-effective.

Some 70 000 non-grid connections to households were expected to be achieved over the medium term, with R166.4 million spent on non-grid electrification.

Funding of R10.9 million was also allocated over the medium term within the INEP for the oversight, monitoring and evaluation of non-grid electrification projects.

Funding for SOEs such as the Necsa, the NNR and the South African National Energy Development Institute (Sanedi) were maintained at existing funding levels. Necsa received R599.34 million in 2016/17, while the NNR and Sanedi received R16.64 million and R20.63 million, respectively.

The New Nuclear Build Programme is part of the security of electricity supply. Additional funding of R200 million in the Nuclear Energy programme was made available in 2016/17 for a transactional advisors and consulting services for the New Nuclear Build Programme.

**Role players**

**National Energy Regulator of South Africa**

NERSA was established in terms of Section 3 of the National Energy Regulator Act of 2004. NERSA’s mandate is to regulate the electricity, piped-gas and petroleum pipelines industries in terms of the Electricity Regulation Act of 2006, the Gas Act of 2001 and the Petroleum Pipelines Act of 2003.

Revenue is generated from levies paid by the regulated industries. All costs of NERSA are shared between the electricity, piped-gas and petroleum pipelines industries using a ringfencing methodology. NERSA’s total budget for 2016/17 was R295.4 million.

NERSA has formulated the following five strategic outcome-oriented goals to support sustainable socio-economic development in South Africa:

- facilitate investment in infrastructure in the energy industry promoting competitive and efficient functioning of the energy industry
- facilitate affordability and accessibility in the energy industry to balance the socio-economic interests of all stakeholders
- facilitate security of supply of energy resources
- position and establish NERSA as a credible and reliable regulator to create regulatory certainty.

**National Nuclear Regulator**

The NNR is responsible for safety standards and regulatory practices for the protection of people, property and the environment against nuclear damage. The entity’s total budget for 2016/17 was R177.7 million.

**Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa**

Necsa is a wholly SOE with the mandate to:

- undertake and promote research into nuclear energy and radiation sciences and technology
- process source, special nuclear and restricted material duties including uranium enrichment
- collaborate with other entities.

The Nuclear Energy Act of 1999 provides for the commercialisation of nuclear and related products and services, and delegates specific responsibilities to Necsa, including the implementation and execution of national safeguards and other international obligations.

The Nuclear Energy Policy of 2008 elaborated on Necsa’s mandate relating to research and development and nuclear fuel-cycle responsibilities.

Subsidiaries of NECSA include Pelchem and Nuclear Technology Products (NTP) Radioisotopes.
Necsa’s main function is to serve as the anchor for nuclear energy research and development, as well as innovation in South Africa. The research focuses mainly on nuclear technology applications such as:
• the production of medical isotopes
• applied chemistry with an emphasis on uranium chemistry
• the application of radiation and nuclear technologies
• aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle, including waste.

The corporation is also responsible for:
• operating the SAFARI-1 research reactor to undertake nuclear science research and development
• providing irradiation services for the production of medical radioisotopes
• decommissioning and decontaminating nuclear facilities
• implementing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); the Africa Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology; and the Pelindaba Treaty.

The corporation contributes to the health component of the NDP’s priorities through NTP Radioisotopes, which produces medical radioisotopes, some of which are used in South Africa’s health system for diagnostic studies and cancer treatments. This accounts for the largest proportion of spending within the corporation, with the radiation products and services programme expected to grow from R1.2 billion in 2015/16 to R1.5 billion in 2018/19 at an average annual rate of 7%. This will allow the SAFARI-1 reactor to be operationally available for 287 days per year, and will allow the corporation to maintain performance safeguards and radiation doses within acceptable limits.

In the medium term, Necsa will focus on:
• radiation research, products and services;
• nuclear fuel research and development in relation to low-enriched uranium research-reactor production facilities;
• nuclear component manufacturing to support future nuclear programmes and future power reactors; and
• contributing to higher industrial manufacturing standards and sustainable job creation.

National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute
The NRWDI Act of 2008 provides for the establishment of the NRWDI to manage radioactive waste disposal on a national basis.

The NRWDI is also responsible for:
• maintaining a national radioactive waste database and publishing a report on the inventory and location of all radioactive waste in the country
• managing ownerless radioactive waste on behalf of the Government, including the development of radioactive waste management plans for such waste
• assisting generators of small quantities of radioactive waste in all technical aspects related to the management of such waste
• implementing institutional control over closed repositories, including radiological monitoring and maintenance as appropriate
• implementing any assignments or directives from the Minister regarding radioactive waste management
• providing information on all aspects of radioactive waste management to the public living around radioactive waste disposal facilities and to the public in general
• advising nationally on radioactive waste management.

South African National Energy Development Institute
With global energy demands on the increase, coupled with the depletion of the country’s natural resources and the negative impact of fossil-based energy sources on the environment, the issues of clean, sustainable energy and the importance thereof in economic development and global well-being have become a pressing reality worldwide. Energy innovation and the efficient use of energy are two key components of mitigating these challenges. It is for this reason the South African Government established the Sanedi.

Central Energy Fund
The CEF is a state-owned national energy utility entity with a focus on oil, gas, coal and renewable and clean energy options reporting to the DoE. The organisation operates in South Africa with strategic partnerships in Ghana and Mozambique. The company derives its mandate primarily from the CEF Act, 1977 (Act 38 of 1977).

The CEF Group’s mandate is to contribute to the national security of energy supply through commercial operations and projects, as well as investing in developmental projects, all the while operating in a highly competitive and capital intensive environment to operate as a profitable entity through its subsidiaries and associates. The CEF Group thus has to contribute towards the triple challenges of Poverty Alleviation, Promoting Equality and Creating Jobs as well as supporting economic growth.

The CEF Group is also responsible for profitably managing defined energy interests on behalf of the South African Government and be commercially viable and sustainable. Most of the activities are in the fossil fuel arena as a result of significant historical investments made by the organisation over the last six decades.

Over time, the company has expanded its activities to include the management of investments with a special focus on renewable and cleaner alternative energy sources.

Wholly owned subsidiaries operating under the CEF are:
• PetroSA – the largest subsidiary in the Group and operates a gas-to-liquids refinery that uses indigenous gas as feedstock. It is also a partner in a producing oil field in Ghana.
• Strategic Fuel Fund – which manages strategic crude oil infrastructure, strategic crude oil stocks, and provides oil pollution control services in Saldanha Bay.
• IGAS – which is a shareholder in the Mozambique-to-South Africa gas pipeline and is involved in the development of other gas delivery projects.
• African Exploration Mining and Finance Corporation – which mines coal in Mpumalanga for supply to Eskom.
• PASA – which is the national petroleum and gas promotion and licensing agency.

Integrated energy centres (IECs)
An IEC is a one-stop energy shop owned and operated by a community co-operative and organised as a community project.
In South Africa, Sasol refines imported crude oil and sells retail liquid fuels through its network of some 400 service stations and supplies gas to industrial customers. It also supplies fuels to other licensed wholesalers in the region. Through Sasol Synfuels International, Sasol is pursuing international opportunities to commercialise its gas-to-liquids (GTL) and coal-to-liquids (CTL) technology.

Sasol's energy cluster focuses on the manufacturing, refining and marketing of automotive and industrial fuels, oils and gas. End products include petro; diesel; jet fuel; fuel oil; illuminating paraffin; liquefied natural gas; pipeline gas; lubricants and greases; bitumen and naphtha.

Sasol's local energy cluster comprises the following:
- Sasol Oil, which handles crude oil refining activities as well as the blending and marketing of liquid fuels and lubricants
- Sasol Gas, which supplies pipeline gas to industrial and commercial customers
- Sasol Mining, which produces about 40 million tons (Mt) of saleable coal a year
- Sasol Synfuels, which operates the coal-based synfuels manufacturing facility at Secunda, Mpumalanga

**Eskom**

Eskom generates approximately 90% of the electricity used in South Africa. The balance is produced by independent power producers and municipalities. Eskom directly provides electricity to about 45% of all end-users in South Africa. The other 55% is resold by redistributors, including municipalities. Eskom generates, transmits and distributes electricity to about 5,6 million residential customers (of whom the majority are prepaid customers), 1,000 commercial customers, 50,000 commercial customers, 32,000 agricultural customers and more than 5,5 million residential customers (of whom the majority are prepaid customers). Most of the sales are in South Africa, with other southern African countries accounting for a small percentage.

Eskom sells electricity directly to about 3,000 industrial customers, 1,000 mining customers, 50,000 commercial customers, 32,000 agricultural customers and more than 5,5 million residential customers (of whom the majority are prepaid customers). Most of the sales are in South Africa, with other southern African countries accounting for a small percentage.

Eskom sells electricity directly to about 3,000 industrial customers, 1,000 mining customers, 50,000 commercial customers, 32,000 agricultural customers and more than 5,5 million residential customers (of whom the majority are prepaid customers). Most of the sales are in South Africa, with other southern African countries accounting for a small percentage.

The power utility is also building new power stations and high-voltage power lines to meet South Africa's growing energy demand. The capacity expansion programme is expected to be completed in 2022.

Recent successes have been the commercialisation of Unit 6 of the Medupi Power Station, which was commissioned in August 2015, adding nominal capacity of 720 MW to the national grid. All the units at the new Ingula pumped storage scheme, totalling 1,332 MW, have been synchronised to the grid.

Eskom maintains approximately 377,287 km of power lines and substations with a cumulative capacity of about 244,637 MVA.

**Southern African Power Pool (SAPP)**

The SAPP was created in August 1995 at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) summit held in Kempton Park, when member governments of SADC (excluding Mauritius) signed an Inter-Governmental Memorandum of Understanding for the formation of an electricity power pool in the region.

The SAPP allows the free trading of electricity between SADC member countries, providing South Africa with access to the vast hydropower potential in the countries to the north, notably the significant potential in the Congo River (Inga Falls). The SAPP has made it possible for members to delay capital expenditure on new plants due to the existence of interconnections and a power pool in the region.

The SAPP has 12 member countries represented by their respective electric power utilities organised through SADC.

**Petronet**

Petronet owns, operates, manages and maintains a network of 3,000 km of high-pressure petroleum and gas pipelines, on behalf of the government.

**Energy resources**

South Africa produces about 5% of its fuel needs from gas, about 35% from coal and about 50% from local crude oil refineries. About 10% is imported from refiners elsewhere in the world. The country has a sizeable capital stock and management capacity to produce fuel from gas. The DoE’s Hydrocarbons and Energy Planning Branch is responsible for coal, gas, liquid fuels, renewable energy and energy planning, including the energy database.

To meet the country’s future energy requirements, Government is implementing an energy mix which comprises coal, solar, wind, hydro, gas and nuclear energy. In future, biomass, wind power, solar power and hydro-power will contribute 11,4 GW of renewable energy to the grid.

Biomass for energy is restricted due to water availability in South Africa, but energy from waste, using the estimated 60 million m³ to 70 million m³ of waste generated annually, is more easily available and exploitable.

The DoE is developing a gas utilisation master plan, which will take a 30-year view of the gas industry from a regulatory, economic and social perspective.

The integrated resource plan targets new gas-fired power generation capacity, plus the supply of gas for converting gas to liquid petroleum products at the plant of the state-owned company, the Mossel Bay Petroleum Oil and Gas Corporation of South Africa.

The department has designed a programme to procure 3,126 MW of electricity produced from gas from selected providers, and a request for information for gas to electricity was expected to be released by the end of April 2016.

**Liquid fuels**

South Africa faces a number of specific challenges in the liquid fuels sector:
• Gas stocks for the existing gas-to-liquids plant from offshore fields are declining.
• Refining capacity has run out and South Africa now has to import a share of its refined fuel needs. There are five options to deal with this, namely:
  • building a new oil-to-liquid refinery (such as the proposed Project Mthombo in Coega)
  • building a new CTL refinery
  • upgrading the existing refineries; allowing significant expansion of one or more of the existing refineries
  • importing refined products
  • building a refinery in Angola or Nigeria and buying a share of the product of that refinery.

Other issues related to liquid fuels include:
• clean fuel standards
• vehicle carbon tax
• electric vehicles
• use of public transport.

The South African liquid-fuels sector presents several opportunities for investors throughout the petroleum value chain.

A key feature of the South African liquid-fuels sector is that most transport fuel is produced in the coastal areas, about 68% of which is consumed in Gauteng. This requires investments in a storage and distribution facilities for the supply of petroleum products at the point of need.

The construction of a multi-product pipeline, which was funded under the DoE through Transnet, was completed. The 555-km pipeline, with a 70-year design life, runs from Durban to Gauteng. It can transport jet fuel, 93-grade and unleaded petrol, low-sulphur diesel and ultra-low-sulphur diesel.

The trunk pipeline, with pump stations, terminals and a 160-km inland pipeline network, came into operation at the end of 2014 to deliver aviation fuel, jet fuel, low-sulphur diesel and ultra-low-sulphur diesel to Gauteng.

These mega infrastructural projects and related support infrastructure require a close and ongoing partnership between state-owned enterprises and private companies.

**Oil and natural gas**

South Africa has very limited oil reserves. About 60% of its crude oil requirements are met by imports from the Middle East and Africa.

Refined petroleum products such as petrol, diesel, residual fuel oil, paraffin, jet fuel, aviation gasoline, LPG and refinery gas are produced by the following methods:
• crude oil refining (oil refineries)
• CTL and GTL fuels (Sasol)
• natural GTL (PetroSA).

Government regulates wholesale margins and controls the retail price of petrol. The industry has entered into product-exchange agreements to serve different markets.

Refiners and Sasol produce LPG and illuminating paraffin (kerosene). Most LPG is consumed in the country and the rest is used in refineries as fuel and/or exported regionally.

The DoE views natural gas as an evolving energy source, despite the country’s limited gas reserves. There are projects underway to explore the potential of importing natural gas, both as liquid natural gas and compressed natural gas.

To this end, the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) was developed, which incorporates gas among alternative energy sources for electricity generation. The IRP presents a 20-year view on South Africa’s energy mix that seeks to balance growth in demand with South Africa’s commitments to reduce its dependence on coal and to lower climate-changing emissions.

The IRP aims to:
• improve the country’s global competitiveness
• support job creation
• improve the management of natural resources
• reduce and mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in line with reduction targets.

The IRP’s development and update processes aim to balance security of supply, cost of electricity, job creation and localisation, minimal negative environmental impact, minimal water usage, to diversity of supply sources (energy mix) and promotion of energy access.

Against these objectives, the DoE set four key milestones:
• settling the key assumptions
• developing a base-case
• modelling and analysing the scenarios and sensitivities
• developing the final plan taking into account the various scenarios and sensitivities.

The first and second milestones have been completed and are the basis of the planned public consultation process. The third milestone, which involves testing various scenarios and sensitivities was implemented in 2016/17, and the fourth milestone that relates to policy adjustment will follow once public consultations and scenario analysis are done.

**Alternative gas resources**

Experiments are underway to assess the potential for mining coal-bed methane gas.

Underground coal gasification technology is also being developed.

According to the USA Energy Information Administration, technically recoverable shale-gas resources in South Africa form the fifth-largest reserve globally.

Since the publication of draft regulations on shale gas development, substantive inputs have been received from interested and affected stakeholders.

The Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) first halted new applications for exploration rights in 2011 to investigate the impact that the process would have on the environment, and an interdisciplinary task team was set up to head this process.

The sensitive nature of the process, possible negative environmental impacts associated with the process and lack of information and knowledge on technical aspects of the hydraulic fracturing process in South Africa will be taken into consideration.

This plan will see the DMR in partnership with its SOEs namely the Council for Geoscience (CGS) and the PASA undertaking a research programme on petroleum exploration and exploitation of shale gas resources during the MTEF period.

A shale gas workshop was held with both the CGS and PASA to finalise a shale gas development plan considering the budget allocation sitting under the DMR and the CGS. In implementing the plan, PASA hosted a training session on the Development of Unconventional Gas and Gas to Liquids Projects course offered by a leading international trainer in January 2016.

The DMR, together with the two institutions, visited Canada to formalise bilateral cooperation in the area of shale gas development, since Canada is a well-established authority on this area.

The research element of the plan is still ongoing and on track with a water-sampling process being undertaken. The department also held a shale gas imbizo with the community of Cradock as well as a business session in Cape Town in January 2016.

The DMR was expected to conduct a communication and marketing campaign to generate and popularise awareness of shale gas and hydraulic fracturing.

The strategic aim of the campaign is to inform, educate and create understanding among South Africans of the potential of the energy resource to contribute to realising the objectives of the NDP, as well as the Nine-Point Plan aimed at growing an inclusive economy.

**Electricity**

Electricity demand is expected to double over the next 20 years as government implements its Programme of Action, including the Infrastructure Development Programme, to put the country’s economy onto a higher growth path.

To this end, more than R340 billion will be spent on Eskom’s New Build Programme. This will bring on line a further 11 641 MW of new capacity in the short term, adding to Eskom’s existing 40 000 MW of capacity.

The DoE has procured private peak stations to the capacity of nearly 1 000 MW that can be used when there is a larger demand than what the Eskom generators can produce. The Avon plant in Eastern Cape was completed in September 2015 and can produce 330 MW.

The Dedisa plant in KwaZulu-Natal was expected to produce 630 MW. Total projects costs were R8 billion, while 210 permanent jobs and 6 190 temporary jobs were created at both plants.

**Coal**

South Africa’s indigenous energy resource base is dominated by coal.
Internationally, coal is the most widely used primary fuel, accounting for about 36% of the total fuel consumption of the world's electricity production.

About 77% of South Africa's primary energy needs are provided by coal. This is unlikely to change significantly in the next two decades owing to the relative lack of suitable alternatives to coal as an energy source. Many of the deposits can be exploited at extremely favourable costs and, as a result, a large coal-mining industry has developed.

In addition to the extensive use of coal in the domestic economy, about 28% of South Africa's production is exported, mainly through the Richards Bay Coal Terminal, making South Africa the fourth-largest coal exporting country in the world.

South Africa's coal is obtained from collieries that range from among the largest in the world to small-scale producers. As a result of new entrants, operating collieries increased to 64 during 2004. Of these, a relatively small number of large-scale producers supply coal primarily to electricity and synthetic fuel producers.

About 51% of South Africa coal mining is done underground and about 49% is produced by open-cast methods. The coal-mining industry is highly concentrated, with five companies accounting for 85% saleable coal production.

These companies are:
- Ingwe Collieries Limited, a BHP Billiton subsidiary
- Anglo Coal
- Sasol
- Eyesizwe
- Kumba Resources Limited, accounting for 85% of the saleable coal production.

Production is concentrated in large mines, with 11 mines accounting for 70% of the output.

South African coal for local electricity production is among the cheapest in the world. The beneficiation of coal, particularly for export, results in more than 65 Mt of coal discards being produced every year.

About 21% of the run-of-mine coal produced is exported, and 21% is used locally (excluding power-station coal). The rest is not saleable and discarded.

The remainder of South Africa’s coal production feeds the various local industries:
- 62% is used for electricity generation
- 23% for petrochemical industries (Sasol)
- 8% for general industry
- 4% for the metallurgical industry (Mittal)
- 4% is purchased by merchants and sold locally or exported.

The key role played by South Africa's coal reserves in the economy is illustrated by the fact that Eskom ranks first in the world as a steam coal user and seventh as an electricity generator. Sasol is the largest coal-to-chemicals producer.

By international standards, South Africa's coal deposits are relatively shallow with thick seams, which make them easier and cheaper to mine. At the present production rate, there should be more than 50 years of coal supply left.

The DoE was expected to announce the preferred bidders from the first bid submission for domestic coal projects in July 2016. Bids with a combined capacity of 900 MW were received and evaluated. The projected investment commitment from these coal projects is in the region of R45 billion, and will be rolled out over the next four years.

An additional 3 750 MW of power will be generated using coal technology, through cross border projects that will augment the local IPP procurement programme. The rationale behind the cross-border coal programme is that it facilitates the construction of the transmission interconnectors between South Africa and its neighbours. Transmission interconnectors are critical if the country is to import power from power projects in the DRC, the Grand Inga, and in Zambia and Mozambique such as Cahora Bassa North Bank and Mpanda Nkua.

This also gives the respective transit countries the necessary comfort that the interconnections are in their national interest and not just for the benefit of South Africa.

**Renewable and alternative fuels**

South Africa's National Development Plan has stressed the importance of a greater mix of energy sources and a greater diversity of IPPs in South Africa's energy mix.

This has been made a reality through the DoE's Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPP).

The renewables programme, which is seen as an example for other African countries, has resulted in over 6 000 MW of generation capacity being allocated to bidders across a variety of technologies, principally in wind and solar.

In November 2016, Eskom announced it had spent approximately R5.5 billion in IPP renewable energy, while 2 000 MW are already connected to the grid.

REIPP is aimed at bringing additional megawatts onto the country's electricity system through private sector investment in wind, biomass and small hydro, among others.

The Eastern Cape’s renewable energy projects has created 18 132 jobs since its inception. The province was awarded 16 wind farms and one solar energy farm, with a total investment value of R33.7 billion.

The province has been able to reduce loadshedding because it is provided additional boost for its energy security when the R3.5 billion, 342 MW Dedisa peaking power station achieved commercial operation in October 2015.

On renewable energy such as solar and wind, the DoE has allocated R5.5 billion in IPP renewable energy with about 1 000 MW already in operation and 1 400 MW planned to come online during 2016.

Work is underway to procure the remaining megawatts in line with the IRP 2010. About 2 500 MW has been allocated for coal projects and procurement from IPPs.

Work on the Grand Inga Project to secure 2 500 MW is continuing, while an energy agreement between South Africa and the DRC has been signed.

The agreement, which was signed in September 2014, provides a legal framework for cooperation between the two countries.

**Biofuel**

The South African Cabinet approved the national Biofuels Industrial Strategy in December 2007. The regulations for mandatory blending of biofuels with petrol and diesel were promulgated in August 2012 and came into effect in October 2016.

The Biofuels Regulatory Framework was submitted to Cabinet during 2016. It outlined how the nascent biofuels industry will be financially supported and how the projects would be selected and supported.

The blending of biofuels reduces the impact of fuel emissions.

In addition, the benefits arising from biofuels include:
- the potential for a biofuels manufacturing industry to create a captive market for the agricultural sector, especially for new black or small farmers
- the opportunity of a biofuels industry to create jobs in rural areas
- the reduction in imports of refined liquid transport fuel, which is good for the country’s balance of payments savings.

The production of 460 million litres of biofuels was expected to create 15 000 new permanent direct jobs in the biofuels manufacturing plants and agriculture and over 3 000 temporary jobs during the construction phase.

With the production of 460 million litres of biofuels a year, the biofuels industry can immediately improve the country’s annual balance of payments of over R2.5 billion at the current crude oil prices and exchange rate.

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries played a key role in designing the biofuels feedstock protocol for monitoring the possible impact of biofuels production on food security. This will prevent the use of staple food crops and land currently used for these crops from being used for biofuels production other than as a result of crop rotation.

**Hydropower**

Energy from water can be generated from waves, tides, waterfalls and rivers and will never be depleted as long as water is available. South Africa has a mix of small hydroelectricity stations and pumped-water storage schemes.

Pumping uses some electricity, but this is done in off-peak periods. During peak hours, when extra electricity is needed, the water is released through a turbine that drives an electric generator. Peak hours are usually from 06:00 to 08:00 and 18:00 to 20:00.

South Africa used to import electricity from the Cahora Bassa hydropower station in Mozambique and will do so again once the transmission line is repaired. There is also the potential to import more hydropower from countries such as Zambia, Zimbabwe and DRC, which could make South Africa less dependent on coal-fired power stations.

Irrespective of the size of its installation, any hydropower development will require authorisation in terms of the National Water Act 1998.

The Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal are endowed with the best potential for the development of small, i.e. less than 1 MW, hydropower plants. These plants can either be stand-alones or
in a hybrid combination with other renewable energy sources. Advantage can be derived from the association with other uses of water – such as water supply, irrigation and flood control – which are critical to the future economic and socio-economic development of South Africa.

Ocean energy could potentially be derived from the various characteristics of the South African coast.

Eskom is continuing resource surveys of the Agulhas Current on the east coast of South Africa and of wave energy, in partnership with the DEA and the Bayworld Centre for Research and Education.

Results have proved the technical feasibility of extracting significant large-scale renewable energy from the current.

According to the IRP’s 20-year projection on electricity supply and demand, about 6% of electricity generated in the country will be required to come from hydro resources.

Solar power

South Africa boasts one of the best solar regimes in the world. Most areas in the country average more than 2 500 hours of sunshine per year, and average daily solar-radiation levels range between 4.5 kW/m² and 6.5 kW/m² in one day. The southern African region, and in fact the whole of Africa, is well endowed with sunshine all year round. The annual 24-hour global solar radiation average is about 220 W/m² for South Africa. The solar resource is the most readily accessible in South Africa. It lends itself to a number of potential uses.

To boost renewable energy development in South Africa, the DoE, in partnership with the NERSA, aims to generate 1 500 MW from new solar technologies in a Northern Cape Solar Park.

The Solar Park will stimulate investment in new and expanding industrial and manufacturing facilities, the development of local supply chains and entrepreneurial and employment opportunities for South Africans in general and for the people of the Northern Cape in particular.

The Solar Park will be developed in a clustered fashion, sharing common infrastructure and services such as access to local water supply, feeder lines to electricity transmission system, roads and support industries. The area has been included in one of the newly promulgated Renewable Energy Development Zones.

The Solar Water Heater Programme was implemented in 2016/17, with contracts placed for the supply of baseline systems under the social programme.

Approximately 9 000 systems have been secured through this programme, in terms of which the local content of these products exceeds 75%.

The next step is to commence with the training of local communities in the installation of the solar water systems, with clear objectives set for skills and enterprise development, job creation and the targeting of the youth, women and other designated groups.

Another priority for the DoE is to address defective installations from the initial solar water heater rollout programme to ensure continued operation of the installed systems and service delivery to the recipients.

Solar power has been identified to serve as incubator for suitably skilled and experienced solar water heater installers and installation businesses. It provides a platform for technical training at different skills levels and an opportunity for work-based experience with respect to all aspects of solar water heater installation; from identifying installation and system defects, to repairs and doing new, replacement installations.

Targets for installing solar water heaters had not been met due to delays in finalising the implementing contract with Eskom and the local content verification outcomes projected by the South African Bureau of Standards. The DoE will now manage the Solar Water Heater Programme. Spending of R1.2 billion over the medium term on 131 146 solar water heaters is projected. The budget for solar water heater service providers is in the Energy Efficiency subprogramme of the Clean Energy programme and is expected to grow at an average annual rate of 49.8% over the medium term.

Wind power

The R3-billion Jeffrey's Bay wind farm, located between the towns of Jeffreys Bay and Humansdorp in the Eastern Cape, was officially inaugurated in July 2014.

Built by a consortium led by British company Globeliq, the 138 MW wind farm is one of Africa’s biggest – larger than the 120 MW Ashegoda windfarm that was unveiled by Ethiopia in October 2013, though not as big as the Tarfaya wind farm in south-western Morocco.

The Jeffrey’s Bay wind farm, comprising sixty 80-metre high turbines spread over 3 700 hectares, will supply enough clean, renewable electricity to power more than 100 000 homes a year, helping South Africa to avoid production of 420 000 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually.

The facility was built under the Government’s renewable energy programme for independent power producers, which aims to add 3 725 MW of wind, solar photovoltaic and concentrating solar power to South Africa’s energy mix.

Hybrid systems

Hybrid energy systems are a combination of two or more renewable energy sources such as photovoltaic, wind, micro- hydro, storage batteries and fuel-powered generator sets to provide a reliable off-grid supply.

There are two pilot hybrid systems in the Eastern Cape at a Hluhluwe Nature Reserve on the Wild Coast and at the neighbouring Luncingwene community.

 Tradable renewables

The White Paper on Renewable Energy Policy proposed that tradable renewable energy certificates be investigated to find out whether these could be one of the funding streams to support the implementation of the renewable energy programme in South Africa. This would be in addition to other funding options, i.e. sale of physical electrical power through a power purchase agreement into the electrical grid at prevailing electricity market prices and certified emission reductions trading through the clean development mechanism, a UN framework mechanism that encourages developing countries to implement emission-reduction projects to earn certified emission reductions.

A tradable renewable energy certificate is an electronic record that verifies the origin of energy by a registered renewable energy entity. It is also referred to as a green certificate or green tag. Tradable renewable energy certificates are based on separating the various attributes of renewable resource-based energy provision from the physical energy carrier, electric or otherwise. It is another revenue stream for renewable energy IPPs and its major advantage is that, apart from potential extra income, certificates can be traded worldwide and separately from the electricity grid infrastructure.

Nuclear

South Africa’s vision for nuclear power is based on the Nuclear Energy Policy of 2008 that provides a framework within which prospecting, milling, mining, the use of nuclear materials, and the development and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, will take place.

Government remains firmly committed to an open, fair and transparent procurement process with due regard to implementing the programme at a scale and pace that South Africa can afford.

The RFP for the Nuclear New Build Programme (NNBP) of 9 600 MW was released to the market during 2016/17.

A Section 34 Ministerial Determination in terms of the National Energy Regulator Act of 2004 on the NNBP was also gazetted in December 2015.

As part of procurement preparation for the NNBP, the DoE has appointed transaction advisors to conduct an independent assessment of the RFP and other pre-procurement activities to ensure the state of readiness before testing the market.

In March 2016, Eskom, the owner and operator of the nuclear plants, as part of the regulatory process submitted a final environmental impact assessment report to the Department of Environmental Affairs for approval. In addition, a nuclear installation site licence application had been submitted to the NNR for assessment.

Extensive nuclear skills development and training is taking place both in South Africa and in countries abroad to ensure that the country has a sufficient supply of skills and expertise to meet the human resource needs required by the NNBP.

By March 2017, the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station was supplying approximately 68% of the power (1 860 MW) used in South Africa and 50% of Western Cape’s energy demand, while adding diversification to the energy mix.
According to KPMG, between 2013 and 2016, Koeberg contributed R29 billion to the GDP of the Western Cape – 1.4% of the provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – and R23 billion to the rest of the South African economy.

The nuclear power station is expected to add R27 billion to the Western Cape provincial GDP and an additional R22 billion to the South African economy between 2016/17 and 2019/20.

Koeberg (and its web of suppliers and service providers) contributed R8 billion to Western Cape provincial revenue between 2012/13 and 2015/16 through direct and indirect tax collection. Koeberg contributed another R5 billion to the fiscus over the same period.

Boiling it down to household level – the coalface of poverty, inequity and unemployment – the Koeberg project added R20 billion to household income between 2012/13 and 2015/16. Some R5 billion (13%) went to low-income households in the Western Cape.

Nationally, Koeberg contributed R15 billion to household income between 2012/13 and 2015/16.

Programmes and projects

In 2015, The Presidency and Government-wide Energy Saving Campaign was launched in an effort to ensure that government-owned buildings are energy efficient.

The Union Buildings in Pretoria installed additional motion sensors and lighting retrofits, saving an additional 330,432 kWh in 2015/16.

The 2016 Presidency Energy Saving Report showed that the Pretoria office had in 2015/16 saved an accumulated 325,727 kWh and 9,905 kVA. The office was therefore able to save R3,762,835.13.

The Cape Town office, Tuynhuys, under the Parliamentary Precinct in 2015/16 saved an accumulated 3,428,923 kWh and 8,636 kVA. The office was able to save R3,779,298.43.

In both offices, The Presidency has in total saved an accumulated 6,754,650 kWh and 18,541 kVA and also saved R7,542,133.56. These energy savings are an equivalent to the energy supply for 1,406 low-income houses for a year.

The Department of Public Works is currently ensuring that all government-owned buildings are energy efficient.

National Energy Efficiency Strategy

The National Development Plan (NDP) envisages that by 2030 South Africa will have an adequate supply of electricity and liquid fuels to ensure that economic activity and welfare are not disrupted, and that at least 95% of the population will have access to grid or off-grid electricity.

The NDP proposes that gas and other renewable resources such as wind, solar and hydro-electricity will be viable alternatives to coal and will supply at least 20,000 MW of the additional 29,000 MW of electricity needed by 2030.

Other recommendations in the NDP include diversifying power sources and ownership in the electricity sector, supporting cleaner coal technologies, and investing in human and physical capital in the 12 largest electricity distributors. The DoE will continue to address these proposals through a combination of new and existing programmes.

Funds will continue to be allocated to the Sanedi for research and development into a carbon capture and storage project, and for a hydraulic fracturing pilot to assess the potential for shale gas.

The DoE will also continue implementing the pilot approach to the distribution asset management programme, by providing capital subsidies to nine municipalities to address maintenance, refurbishment and backlog concerns to improve the quality of electricity supply.

The objectives of the revised energy efficiency strategy are to:

- promote and develop energy efficiency practices, norms and standards in different energy sectors, including industries, commercial buildings, households, transport and agriculture
- develop energy efficiency policies and guidelines
- facilitate information awareness and capacity-building campaigns concerning energy efficiency and environmental issues
- promote energy for sustainable development
- mitigate negative impacts of energy use on the environment
- promote energy efficiency technologies and clean energy technologies, including environmentally sound energy technologies
- promote and facilitate international collaboration and cooperation
- ensure the DoE’s participation at international forums on energy efficiency and the environment, including the United Nations (UN) Commission on Sustainable Development, the Kyoto Protocol and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The strategy includes Eskom’s demand-side management. Municipalities are also implementing their own energy efficiency strategies. In addition, 32 large companies have joined forces with the DoE and Eskom by signing an energy efficiency accord, committing themselves to targets contained in the strategy.

To assist households in becoming more energy efficient, the DoE initiated an appliance-labelling campaign. Labels on household appliances inform consumers of the energy efficiency of the appliances.

National building standards

Energy-efficient regulations for new buildings form part of the deliverables of South Africa’s National Energy Strategy to strengthen standards and regulations for energy efficiency. The energy-efficient regulations apply to residential and commercial buildings, places of learning and worship, certain medical clinics and other categories of building.

The regulations make it compulsory for all new buildings to be designed and constructed to a standard that makes it possible for the user to minimise the energy required to meet the functional requirements. This will save energy significantly, which will relieve pressure on the electricity supply grid.

In addition to temperature regulations, all buildings will also have to be fitted with renewable-energy water-heating systems such as solar systems, which also have to comply with South African national standards.

An excellent example of the power of energy-efficient buildings and the power-savings they can effect can be found in Bayside Mall in Cape Town. Bayside Mall is saving 2,200 units of electricity each day due to the installation of renewable energy systems.

As part of its Going Green project, Bayside Mall harvests rainwater and generates solar electricity. Through this system, the mall is reducing the electricity it needs from Eskom by about 2,200 units each day.

The mall had reported significant cost-savings since the installation of its rooftop photovoltaic (PV) system two years ago. The mall’s rooftop PV system includes 2,000 solar panels. Bayside Mall has saved R1 million through its reduced energy savings initiatives and used around 800,000 less kilowatts of energy over the same period. These figures show that energy efficiency is the responsible and moneywise way to operate.

Integrated Energy Plan

The IEP represents the DoE’s overarching energy policy and strategy that has been under development since 2012, when Cabinet approved the commencement of the public consultation process. The following strategies and programmes all form part of this greater scheme towards energy self-sufficiency and environmentally friendly energy resources.

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Gas Infrastructure Plan

The IRP 2010 – 2030 envisages 9,600 MW additional nuclear capacity by 2030. The IRP is a 20-year projection on electricity supply and demand. It aims to reduce South Africa’s primary
reliance on fossil fuels such as coal and diesel, and diversify the national energy mix to produce 41.8% from renewable energy sources and a further 6.1% from hydroelectricity within two decades. The updated IRP process was to be submitted to the economic sector and infrastructure development cluster at the end of 2017. Similarly, the Gas Infrastructure Plan will take its lead from the IEP regarding gas pipelines, storage and other infrastructure that is necessary for meeting the energy demand through gas supply. Going forward, it is becoming more and more apparent that future energy demand will be a mix of electricity, gas and liquid fuels and, depending on the relative cost competitiveness of each of these, an equilibrium between the three will be established.

National LPG Strategy
LPG is commonly used in mines to power smelting furnaces that are processing materials, such as platinum and vanadium, as well as domestically for cooking.

The LPG strategy’s main objectives are to provide access to safe, cleaner, efficient, portable, environmentally friendly and affordable thermal fuel for all households, and to switch biogas and biomass feedstock households away from the use of coal, paraffin and biomass to LPG.

The strategy highlights strategic options that could be adopted for the orderly development of the LPG industry in South Africa to make LPG an energy carrier of choice for thermal applications. The domestic LPG price is regulated through the DoE by the Minister of Energy.

Wind Resource Map
The DoE launched the country’s first Large Scale High Resolution (250 m) Wind Resource Map in July 2013. The data is based on the Verified Numerical Wind Atlas for South Africa (WASA).

It includes important information such as ground surface terrain effects that determine the local wind climate and, in turn, can be used to identify high-yielding wind development zones; and the estimation of available wind energy and capacity which can be used by prospective wind farm developers of all sizes in their planning process. The Wind Resource Map offers important benefits for planners, policy makers and industry. These benefits include cost and timing savings as the viability, in terms of wind speed, of a potential site can be predicted with known and traceable accuracy, while it also levels the playing field between small or large industry players to identify and develop project sites for wind farms. It will also assist Government in calculating the potential yield of wind energy resources, among other things. The Large Scale High Resolution Wind Resource Map is available to the public from the WASA’s online portal http://wasadata.csir.co.za/wasa1/WASADATA. The purpose of the WASA is to improve knowledge and the quality of resource assessment methods and tools, to make available this knowledge and tools free of charge for planning and development of wind farms and off-grid electrification, and to build capacity of local institutions to do wind resource measurements.

The country has a reasonable wind energy resource (an average of 8 m/s measured at 80 m) is available in geographically dispersed locations, allowing for security of supply.

Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme
The REIPPPP is a flagship programme of the DoE and falls under the mandate of the Electricity Regulation Act of 2006.

The DoE, National Treasury and the Development Bank of Southern Africa established the independent power producer procurement programme at the end of 2010 to secure electrical energy generated from renewable and non-renewable sources from the private sector. The programme is designed to be self-funding through revenue derived from development fees paid by bidders and investors.

By December 2015, the department had procured 6 977 MW of renewable energy through the programme and connected 44 projects with a capacity of 2 021 MW to the national grid. The energy contribution of independent power producers was expected to grow to approximately 7 000 MW with the first 10 renewable energy independent power producers fully operational by mid-2016.

The programme also seeks to procure energy from small-scale independent power producers, with projects that generate between 1 MW and 5 MW of energy from solar, wind, biomass and landfill gas projects.

Additional funding of R200 million in the Nuclear Energy programme was made available in 2016/17 for a transactional advisors and consulting services for the new nuclear build programme. The advisors were to assist with the call for proposals for procuring nuclear energy and provide transactional advice to the department as a procuring agent for the new nuclear build programme.

Private investment in the programme currently exceeds R119.4 billion. The DoE remains on track to meet its national commitment to transition to a low-carbon economy with the target of 17 800 MW of renewable energy power by 2030.

Integrated National Electrification Programme
INEP and its implementing agencies – Eskom, municipalities and non-grid service providers – have made remarkable progress in increasing access to electricity in South Africa and have connected on average 6.7 million households between 1994 and 2016.

Access to electricity was at 88% by March 2016. A total of R5.6 billion had been appropriated by 2015/16 on the Electrification Programme, to deliver 260 000 connections using both grid and non-grid technologies.

At the end of March 2016, INEP achieved 231 012 (grid) and 25 076 (non-grid) connections. This resulted in 256 088 new connections as part of allocations for 2015/16. The target for May 2016 stood at 260 000 new connections.

The Non-Grid Electrification Programme has been overachieving its target. Since the inception of Non-Grid Electrification Programme, INEP achieved more than 123 379 installations of non-grid systems mainly in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape and Limpopo.

Non-grid systems consisting of solar cells converting sun energy into electrical energy are now also being considered for implementation in urban areas of the country with a view of increasing the basic electricity services in the informal settlements. The European Union (EU) is also assisting the DoE to develop a sustainable delivery model and sustainable non-grid entities around the country. In addition, INEP has developed the first draft of the Electrification Master Plan to ensure better cooperation between the different implementing entities, as well as different technologies, and grid and non-grid roll-out in unserviced areas, to ensure that universal access is reached by 2025/26.

The INEP programme was allocated R5.5 billion in 2016/17 to deliver 235 000 connections for both grid and non-grid. Over the MTEF, an estimated amount of R17.6 billion will be appropriated.

New Build Programme
Eskom’s New Build Programme was launched in 2005 with the aim of adding more than 17 000 MW to the national electricity grid by 2018. Two new coal power stations are the 4 800-MW Medupi Power Station near Lephalale in Limpopo and Kusile in Emalahleni, Mpumalanga, which is also expected to have an output of 4 800 MW.

In August 2015, President Jacob Zuma officially opened one of six generating units at the Medupi Power Station in Lephalale in Limpopo, which contributes about 800 MW to the grid. Kusile Power Station is scheduled for full commercial operation by 2018, although individual units will be brought online earlier as they are completed. Kusile is a six-unit coal fired power station that will generate approximately 4 800 MW of electricity.

Carbon capture and storage roadmap
Although South Africa has a programme to increase the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency, coal is likely to provide most of the country’s primary energy for the next few decades.

The displacement of fossil fuels by renewable and nuclear energy is seen as a gradual task. Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a transition measure from fossil fuel to nuclear and renewable energy. To this end, the South African Centre for Carbon Capture and Storage (SACCCS) was established in March 2009.

The mandate of SACCCS is to develop and implement a roadmap for the commercial application of CCS in South Africa. The first and second phases of the roadmap have been completed and now the preparation for the Pilot Carbon Dioxide Storage Project (PCSP) is the focus for the centre.

SACCCS’s role in the South African CCS Roadmap is as follows:

• 2004: Assessment of the potential for CCS in South Africa (completed)
• 2010: Development of a South African Carbon Dioxide Geological Storage Atlas (complete)
• 2017: Commissioning of a Pilot Carbon Dioxide Storage Project storing about 10 000 t to 50 000 t carbon dioxide (underway)
• 2020: Facilitate the commencement of a CCS demonstration project (in the order of 100 000 t carbon dioxide per year)
• 2025: Inform the implementation of commercial CCS deployment (over 1 000 000 t carbon dioxide per year).

Working for Energy Programme
The Working for Energy Programme is mainly intended to provide energy services derived from renewable resources to rural and urban low-income houses. In this manner it facilitates job creation, skills development, community-based enterprise development and the emancipation of youths, women and people with disabilities.

The major focus area of this social programme is the provision of sustainable energy solutions (supply side) with special emphasis on the youth, women and people with disabilities in rural areas and low-income urban communities in terms of:
• labour-intensive options, targeting short-term employment opportunities
• sustainable employment opportunities, and enhancing stimulated local economic activity
• community development initiatives and cross-cutting human capital development.

The 20-Year Liquid Fuels Infrastructure Plan
The 20-Year Liquid Fuels Infrastructure Plan forms the basis for the implementation of the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission Strategic Implementation Project regarding refinery upgrades and development, and make recommendations on the future of the refinery infrastructure in the country.

As further response to the global situation and domestic development imperatives, the department decided to strengthen the Strategic Fuels Fund, a subsidiary of the CEF. The DOE will position the Strategic Fuels Fund to improve the country’s strategic petroleum reserves and enable the country to respond better to catastrophic global events that impact on the petroleum trade.

Renewable energy programmes from Eskom
Eskom has an active research programme investigating ways to harness South Africa’s renewable energy sources for power generation. Eskom is looking to increase the renewables component of its supply mix.

The long-term strategic energy plan includes a mix of all viable sources, including renewables, to be implemented where commercially viable. The two most advanced areas under investigation are wind-generated and concentrated solar thermal power.

Eskom’s renewable energy journey has been affected by several factors, including the changing nature of power generation, environmental concerns and procuring loans that will fund solar and wind-electricity generation.

Underground coal gasification
Eskom also has an underground coal gasification project in the pilot stage, with a test plant next to the Majuba Power Station in Mpumalanga. The gas produced is co-fired with coal in Majuba’s Unit Four, and contributes 3 MW to the station’s output.

The process entails using coal seams that cannot be mined for various reasons – they may be too deep, fractured, or of poor quality – and turns the coal into clean gas on site. With the region’s substantial coal reserves, there is potential in this source of power. Eskom has developed a 10-year transmission development plan which includes renewable energy integration.

Sere Wind Farm
Eskom’s Sere Wind Farm is delivering 100 MW to the national grid. It is Eskom’s first large-scale renewable energy project, and forms part of the company’s commitment to renewable energy and reducing its carbon footprint.

The plant contributes to saving nearly 6-million tons of greenhouse gas emissions over its 20 years expected operating life, with average annual energy production of about 298 000 MWh, enough to supply about 124 000 standard homes.

Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme
The Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme, near Van Reenen in KwaZulu-Natal, consists of an upper and a lower dam; both with the capacity to hold about 22 million m³ of water capacity.

During times of peak energy consumption, water will be released from the upper dam through the pump turbines to the lower dam to generate electricity.

Concentrated solar power
A solar park is a concentrated zone of solar plants that are built in clusters, sharing common transmission and infrastructure.

Together, these clusters generate thousands of megawatts of electricity. The types of technology used are solar PV and concentrated PV, which operate with semiconductors and solar panels; as well as concentrated solar power, which uses mirrors to reflect the sun’s rays.

The country has been a member of the IAEA for decades and has been both a recipient and provider of services emanating from the agency.

As a member state of the IAEA, permanent member of the board of directors and actively participating in nuclear energy, safety, technology, security and disarmament, South Africa has contributed to efforts of ensuring that nuclear energy is used for peaceful purposes like power generation as well as medical, industrial and agricultural initiatives.

In October 2016, South Africa’s Ambassador to the IAEA and Governor to the Board of IAEA, Mr Tsebo Seokolo, was elected to serve as its Chair from October 2018 to October 2019.

The last time South Africa chaired the IAEA Board was in 1959.

The Vienna-based IAEA was established in 1957 with South Africa as one of its founders. It currently comprises 171 member states.

Sustainable development in Africa
The Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Western Power Corridor Project was signed in October 2004.

This New Partnership for Africa’s Development flagship programme intends to pilot the use of hydro-electric energy obtained from the Inga rapids site in the DRC to ensure the security of supply in the SADC.

The participating utilities are those of Angola, Botswana, the DRC, Namibia and South Africa. A joint-venture company has

International cooperation
South Africa is a member of the International Energy Forum (IEF), which aims to foster greater mutual understanding and awareness of common energy interests among its members.

The 74 member countries of the forum are signatories to the IEF Charter, which outlines the framework of the global energy dialogue through this intergovernmental arrangement.

South Africa is a member state of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). IRENA seeks to make an impact in the world of renewable energy by maintaining a clear and independent position, providing a range of reliable and well-understood services that complement those already offered by the renewable energy community and gather existing, but scattered, activities around a central hub.

The country has been a member of the IAEA for decades and has been both a recipient and provider of services emanating from the agency.
beformed to initiate studies determining the viability of the project and to build, own and operate the infrastructure.

The main project outside South Africa’s borders is Westcor. It entails a five-way intergovernmental MoU signed between the utilities of Angola, Botswana, the DRC, Namibia and South Africa. Westcor will tap into some of the potential in the DRC. Inga III, a 3 500-MW hydro plant on the Congo River, will be the first of these projects.

At the same time, the countries to the north could benefit through access to the coal-fired power resources in the south. Such an arrangement should stabilise the energy requirements of the region well into this century.

Exploitation of the vast hydropower resources would constitute a significant infusion of renewable-energy resources into the energy economy of the region over the medium to long term.

The Lesotho Highlands Water Project could contribute some 72 MW of hydroelectric power to the system in the short term.

Global pressures regarding the environmental impact and displacement of settlements by huge storage dams are likely to limit the exploitation of hydropower on a large scale. Irrespective of the size of installation, any hydropower development will require authorisation in terms of the National Water Act of 1998.

Cross-border gas trade agreement

To facilitate the movement of gas across international borders, cross-border gas trade agreements have been signed with Mozambique and Namibia. Since the arrival of natural gas to the primary energy supply has risen from 1.5% to 3.3% (2005).

This figure is expected to rise to 4.3% when the new Mozambique-South Africa gas-transmission pipeline reaches maximum capacity.

The Tete-Maputo Power Transmission Line, also known as the Centre-South Project (Cesul), in Mozambique, will improve the ability to evacuate power from the projects in the northern Mozambique complex, particularly releasing the hydropower potential relating to Mpanda Nkuwa and Cahora Bassa.

The South Africa-Namibia Gas Commission addresses harnessing the natural gas reserves in the Kudu Gas Field.

In March 2017, Eskom signed a five-year electricity sales agreement with Namibia’s national electricity utility, NamPower. Eskom will supplement generation capacity for South Africa’s neighbour with its surplus electricity, providing Namibia with energy security and allowing for economic development and growth.

Eskom and Botswana Power Corporation signed a three-year firm power supply agreement in April 2017. This is in line with Eskom’s plan to increase its electricity exports to South Africa’s neighbouring states. Eskom currently has excess capacity of about 4 000 MW, excluding an operating margin.

Import and export of fuel products

The import of refined products is restricted to special cases where local producers cannot meet demand. It is subject to state control to promote local refinery usage.

When overproduction occurs, export permits are required and generally granted, provided that the needs of both South Africa and other Southern African Customs Union members are met. More diesel than petrol is exported, due to the balance of supply and demand of petrol and diesel relative to refinery configurations.

Although petrol and diesel make up 55% of total liquid-fuel exports, South Africa is also the main supplier of all other liquid fuels to Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland.

Energy and the global environment

South Africa is classified as a developing country or a non-Annex 1 country. This means that within the international political and negotiation context, South Africa is not required to reduce its GHG emissions.

South Africa is among the top 20 emitters of GHGs in the world and the largest emitter in Africa, largely because of the economy’s dependence on fossil fuels. It emits more than 400 Mt of carbon dioxide per year.

The National Climate Change Strategy, developed by the then Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, requires that government departments collaborate in a coordinated manner to ensure that response measures to climate change are properly directed and carried out with a national focus.

The South African economy depends greatly on fossil fuels for energy generation and consumption, and is subsequently a significant emitter due to relatively high values being derived from emission intensity and emissions per capita.

Therefore, South Africa is proactively moving the economy towards becoming less carbon-intensive, with the DoE playing a prominent role. The department has introduced systems to access investment through the clean development mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol. It developed the White Paper on Renewable Energy and Clean Energy Development, together with an energy efficiency programme, to support diversification in pursuit of a less carbon-intensive energy economy.

The Grand I MoU signed with the DRC is an important milestone in working towards sustainable African partnerships aimed at developing strategies for low-carbon economies and interconnected energy systems.

The South African Renewables Initiative secures international financing partnerships in investment in deploying renewable energy and develops renewable supply chains through securing a critical mass of renewable energy, without imposing undue burden on the fiscus or the South African consumer.

In line with this objective, the DoE has signed a Declaration of Intent with Germany, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Norway and the European Investment Bank. This agreement will lead to the establishment of a fund to assist in the deployment of renewable energy.

Further, the department participates in structures such as the:

- International Renewable Energy Agency
- International Energy Forum
- International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation
- UN Industrial Development Organisation
- Clean Energy Ministerial
- African Union-EU Energy Partnership.