

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWS on EMAIL (SENSE) number 23

Welcome! SENSE is a service of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Partnership (SECCP), a project of Earthlife Africa Johannesburg in partnership with WWF, Denmark.

SENSE is a monthly publication, edited by Claire Taylor. We welcome any feedback and submissions. Also let us know if you wish to be removed from this list, know someone else who should be receiving SENSE, or if you'd like to receive our separate Climate Change email newsletter, CCEN.

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1. SECCP News

Note from SENSE editor

Putting together this issue of SENSE has been quite difficult, as there is so much to report on! Of importance is the report back on the South African government meeting to develop a position paper for Bonn *renewables2004*, which was an opportunity for civil society to put forward a number of proposals. However, because of space constraints, a number of interesting articles – such as a report back on the benefits of using Tradeable Renewable Energy Certificates to promote renewable energy in South Africa – will be delayed until the next issue of SENSE. A big thank you to all those who

contributed to this edition of SENSE, as having different voices adds to the quality of the read. So, if you have anything you'd like to see in SENSE, please let me know.

Earthlife Africa membership

It's that time of year again – when membership fees for Earthlife Africa - Johannesburg are due to be paid. If you haven't yet paid, or if you want to become a member of Earthlife Africa, please contact the secretary of the Johannesburg branch, Elin Lorimer: (011) 339 3662 or elin@earthlife.org.za

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2. SA's sustainable energy progress

Report back On SA government renewables2004 prep meeting

Claire Taylor

This is a summarised version of a report on a Department of Minerals and Energy workshop on 29 March 2004, that was held in preparation for renewables2004. The aim of the workshop was to assist government in drawing up a position paper for renewables2004. Contact the editor for the full report

Delegates attending the DME workshop in preparation for *renewables2004* made a number of proposals for what government should include in its position paper. Overall, delegates urged the South African government to take cognisance of the CURES Declaration, particularly the actions listed for national and local governments on pages 12 and 13. Delegates then made the following proposals:

In order to facilitate an enabling political framework to promote renewable energy (RE):

1. Government should adopt differentiated targets for the different renewable energy sources and should commit to 20% electricity of electricity generation from new renewables by 2020
2. Government should develop and adopt regulations that require parastatal entities (including the IDC and Eskom) and government departments, particularly the Department of Public Enterprises, to publicly report on their energy-related spending in a user-friendly format to allow for an informed public
3. Government should commit to the implementation of the White Paper for Energy Policy in South Africa, particularly the provision that there should be equitable spending on various energy technologies.
4. Local governments to commit to developing cities' energy strategies, with quantified targets for renewable energy and efficiency

In order to build capacity:

1. National government should support local governments in the development of City Energy Strategies
2. All parties to the conference should work to enable and ensure that
 - there is sharing at a local government level of success stories and experiences;
 - there is a nationally coordinated strategy on R&D on energy and related issues;
 - there is public awareness and education to address negative perceptions of energy options
3. Private sector participants should commit to developing local knowledge, skills and manufacturing of renewable energy technologies and should receive financial support in this endeavour, matching the national social and environmental benefits that derive from them.

In order to increase public and private financing for RE, government must:

1. Recognise the employment potential of RE when funding/ supporting RE projects, so emphasising decentralised approaches.
2. Recognise the importance of consumer financing, in which both the private and public sector are responsible.
3. Establish clear regulations/ standards (nationally and locally) that support the development of RE markets (e.g. feed in tariffs and SWH) to encourage investment.
4. Provide finance for RE programmes from sustainable sources e.g. pollution taxes/charges.

Next Steps:

Kevin Nassiep, the Chief Director of Energy Planning in the DME, assured delegates that a draft copy of the SA government's position paper would be available for comment by 20 April 2004, to be finalised by end April.

Gender and energy

Claire Taylor

In SENSE 22 we reported back on an Energy Caucus meeting held in late February, at which a Gender and Energy working group was convened "to promote women's participation in energy issues, both in project implementation and decision-making."

After reading this report, Wendy Annecke from Gender and Energy Research and Training contacted SECCP to find out how this Working Group could collaborate with SAGEN, the Southern African Gender and Energy Network. This is a fairly extensive list of women and energy people in southern Africa, the existence of which has meant that the Energy Caucus group has been dissolved into this larger network. Wendy hopes to get a list serve established for SAGEN in early April. She is also involved in training on gender and energy. If you're interested in being on this list, or want training on gender and energy, contact Wendy at glo-worm@iafrica.com or on 27 (0) 21 788 47 28.

For those that are interested, there is also an international newsletter of the Network for Gender and Sustainable Energy – ENERGIA News, see www.energia.org for back copies.

Tap into the sun: solar heat and energy education centre

Dylan Tudor Jones, Solar Heat Exchangers

Solar Heat Exchangers in collaboration with Divwatt have developed Gauteng's first ever 'solar heat and energy education centre'.

"The World Summit on Sustainable Development was the catalyst to the development of the centre", says Dylan Tudor Jones, Managing Member of Solar Heat Exchangers. "One of the main barriers to success in the solar industry was again highlighted as being the lack of knowledge about solar energy and the benefits thereof." As solar heat exchangers' focus is on solar water heating, they sought a partner that dealt in photovoltaics and approached Divwatt. With a common goal, within 6 months the centre was opened.

Various types of solar water heating applications are on permanent display, including different makes of domestic solar water heaters, solar space heating, solar swimming pool and spa heating panels, and low cost solar water heaters for affordable/staff housing. Also exhibited is a range of photovoltaic cells and wind generators providing power for the presentation equipment, lighting, a fan, a borehole pump and a

refrigerator. Other technologies such as wind turbines and solar cookers are also exhibited. A solar powered electric fence system protects the display whilst solar streetlight illuminates the area at night.

Visitors can enjoy a cup of coffee and eat a snack cooked on a solar cooker whilst viewing solar technologies of the past, present and future. So why not visit the centre and broaden your horizons? The solar heat and energy education centre is open for viewing by appointment 5 days a week. Once a week presentations are held at the centre for all potential buyers and specifiers of solar equipment.

For bookings, please contact kathy@solarheat.co.za. For further technical information visit www.solarheat.co.za or contact Dylan at dylan@solarheat.co.za or by phone on 086 11 SOLAR/76527.

Appeal for solar powered AIDS centre

Tim Senger, Edzimkulu volunteer

Edzimkulu, an organization working in Ndawana (50 km from Underberg, KZN) to help children and communities affected by AIDS wants to construct a solar powered community center.

Having the community center will help the organisation undertake various programmes including AIDS and life skills education, music and art and to develop micro industries such as craft manufacturing (sewing, beading), furniture refinishing and gardening.

If you know any people or organisations that could help Edzimkulu (with advice or assistance) build a solar powered community center in Ndawana, or that would be interested in the work Edzimkulu does, please contact Tim Senger at (033) 701 1260. For more information about Edzimkulu see www.edzimkulu.org

2nd workshop on formulation of renewable energy market rules

Want to influence government's introduction of renewable energy into the power market? Make sure to attend the DME hosted 2nd workshop on the formulation of renewable energy market rules.

When: Thursday, 29 April 2004, 10h00-15h00

Where: Mineralia Building, 391 Andries Street, Pretoria

For more information about the workshop and to confirm attendance, contact Sandiswa Tshaka at (012) 317 9569 by 20 April 2004

Mokoena takes over at NER

Amanda Visser, Sake Beeld, 9 March 2004

Mr Smunda Mokoena has taken over as CEO at the National Electricity Regulator as of 1 April after Dr. Xolani Mkhwanazi resigned. Before this, Mokoena was the deputy director general of the New Partnership for African Development (Nepad) secretariat in the office of the President. According to an NER statement the electricity sector can expect major changes this year. This includes the introduction of the Regulation of the Electricity Industry Act and the inclusion of gas and petroleum pipelines in the regulator's responsibilities.

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3. Unsustainable Energy

South Africa

Makeover for Eskom power plant at Hendrina

Business Day, 17 March 2004

Eskom's oldest power plant at Hendrina, outside Middelburg in Mpumalanga, is to become a more environmentally friendly facility after a R57m contract was awarded to install cleaning bag filters there. The installation of filters is expected reduce about 99% of visible emissions from the coal burning power station. The project forms part of Eskom's commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 to reduce the level of harmful gases emitted from its coal-fired plants.

The contract was awarded to engineering and construction company Bateman Howden. Bateman Howden has recently completed a R44m project to install similar devices at privately owned Kelvin power station near Johannesburg. The technology has also been used at Eskom's Majuba power station and Pretoria's municipal power plant, Rooiwal.

Electrification fast-tracked prior to elections

Combination of articles from Business Day, 3 March 2004 and Citizen, 12 March 2004

The Minister of Minerals and Energy Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka announced that R7.1m would be spent electrifying 2 500 houses in Nkomazi Municipality in Mpumalanga province. The Minister said the province was allocated an amount of R11.2m on the Municipal Programme, and R34.4-m on the Eskom Programme, for the electrification plan. The Integrated National Electrification Programme and Business Planning Unit were established in April 2001 to increase electricity access to historically disadvantaged households, schools and clinics through grid and non-grid technology.

Meanwhile, earlier in March, Minerals and Energy Deputy Minister, Susan Shabangu, gave the Umzimkhulu municipality in Eastern Cape a R5.6 million boost for the electrification of houses.

DME Spokesperson, Kanyo Gkulu said the department had electrified more than 3.4 million houses and 7 637 schools in the past 9 years. A recent electrification report, issued jointly by the DME and National Electricity Regulator (NER) showed that more than 70% of the country now had access to electricity compared with only 50% in 1995. Government said the main challenge was to electrify remote areas that were situated far from the national grid.

Eskom pushes up power output

Citizen, 5 March 2004

South Africa, which generates most of its power from coal, increased electricity output in January by 6,9 percent from a year ago. SA's power producers generated 19 270 gigawatt-hours of electricity during the month, Pretoria-based Statistics SA said on its website. Consumption rose 4,8 percent to 17 640 gigawatt-hours. **Editor:** Which means there's an 8.5% loss in transmission.

Conserve our black gold

Summary of speech by Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, the minerals and energy affairs minister that appeared in ThisDay, 3 March 2004

“Forty years seems like a long time, but if you think that in 40 years only 20 percent of our coal reserves will remain you should be concerned.

Coal is the dominant energy source in South Africa. Because of its low cost and relative abundance it is used for the generation of more than 90 percent of the electricity used in this country. Coal is the third-largest mineral-export earner for South Africa. Though it is mainly utilised in combustion, the other uses of coal and of coal-derived chemicals are many. We live in a coal-dominated society. However, once the reserves of South Africa’s central coal basin are mined out, the supply of some of the best coal for export and local use will come to an end.

The production of coal generates large volumes of coal discards – 29 percent of the country’s run-of-mine production last year was discarded. Coal beneficiation plants at collieries dedicated to the export market produce coal-bearing discards. The latest estimate of accumulated discards in South Africa is more than a billion tons. Possibilities for the utilisation of these discards are being investigated.

In terms of the ownership of the coal industry the final attainment of economic empowerment will come when the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act and the Mining Charter are implemented. This legislation will have a great effect on the smaller coal miners. Many of the large mining houses will have to take inventory of their reserves and look for some that could be passed on to new entrants to the coal-mining industry so that the large established companies can meet the requirements of their empowerment scorecards. This will increase the growth of the small coal-mining sector.

The industrialised countries of Europe and North America, who are consumers of large quantities of coal, have become aware of the threat of global warming and of the need to create a cleaner, less-toxic environment. It is because of this that scientific research into ‘clean coal’ has become ever more important in recent years.

The World Bank, in its Extractive Industries Review, recommends that gas-fired power stations replace coal-fired stations. In my view, considering South Africa’s circumstances, the World Bank should instead recommend investment in clean-coal technologies. Such investment would make our industry pollution-free and energy would still be affordable to industry and the country as a whole.”

Editor: Clearly the clean coal lobby has been hard at work and economical with the truth. Even the most rigorous and expensive technologies promoted under this banner don’t provide truly clean or non-polluting electricity generation from coal – even if we ignore the mess and water pollution of mining and the huge volumes of ash generated. What clean coal technologies do achieve is a reduction, to different degrees, of air pollution from power stations, without in any way replacing coal with renewable energy sources.

Extractive Industries Review

Richard Worthington

The Extractive Industries Review, commissioned by the World Bank, has become a focus for international advocacy, not only for holding the WB to its mandate of poverty reduction, but also for getting decision-makers to unite behind a call for the recommendations to be adopted by all development bank and export credit agencies.

The Review proposes the immediate ban on new investments in coal and phase out of oil by 2008, and requires that all communities affected by specific projects give informed consent of them before they begin.

Our own minister has not welcomed the review, although public comments suggest that it has been misrepresented to her. It should be noted that this is not a campaign to outlaw investment in fossil fuels and does not focus on commercial financial institutions; it is about getting institutions that were established and claim to operate in the public interest, and particularly for the benefit of the poor and with commitments to sustainable development, to achieve this mandate.

Africa

Sasol spearheads move to use natural gas – and soya beans

Business Day (30 March 2004) reported that South Africa has made its first significant progress in achieving government's stated aim of diversifying the country's energy sources from coal, with Sasol opening a natural gas pipeline between central Mozambique and South Africa. The gas imported through the 1,2bn pipeline will be used by Sasol to substitute some of the coal used at its Sasolburg plant to make chemicals and diesel and to supply industrial customers in Gauteng.

And in another (renewable - **editor**) project, Sasol is planning to build a plant at Secunda that would convert 400 000 tons of soya beans a year into 80 000 tons of diesel. Such a project would be the first of its kind in Africa and would use three times South Africa's annual soya crop. Sasol is looking for partners and would need to find farmers it could contract to grow sufficient quantities of the crop. **Editor:** The EIA for this project should be a great opportunity to assess the sustainability of various crops for biodiesel production.

SA backs expansion of DRC power project

Engineering News, 27 February 2004

South Africa has given its backing to a multibillion-dollar expansion of a giant power project in the Democratic Republic of Congo to help light up the African continent, according to Public Enterprises Minister Jeff Radebe. Radebe told reporters in Cape Town that South Africa's power utility Eskom had invested in the Inga power project and similar operations in Angola and Namibia in efforts to set up an African grid. He did not say when and how much Eskom had put in the various projects.

The entire project is expected to produce 40 000 megawatts when it is fully completed and will have cost \$6-billion.

Zimbabwe seeks foreign funds for power stations

Business Day, 8 March 2004

THE Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (Zesa), is seeking US\$543m to recapitalise the Kariba and Hwange power stations in an effort to increase the country's generating capacity as it battles to service its foreign debt to pay for electricity imports, reports The Herald, Harare. The power utility, which has already produced a turnaround plan for growth, intends to expand both Kariba and Hwange power stations by another two units respectively. Officials said the construction of the units would be undertaken in an engineering, procurement and construction contract basis.

It is envisaged that the expansion will allow Zimbabwe to export electricity from Kariba power station to countries within the Southern African Development Community (SADC), instead of importing power.

Zesa currently imports 35% of its electricity requirements from Hydro Cahora Bassa of Mozambique, Snel of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Eskom of South Africa. The remainder is generated locally.

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4. General Sustainable Energy News

South Africa

Announcement: Management Programme in Energy Industry

MEETI

Minerals and Energy Education and Training Institute (MEETI) (In association with the Graduate School of Public and Development Management, Wits University) invites applications for a Management Programme in Energy Industry course, which is running from 24-28 May 2004. The course offers an opportunity to learn more about Renewable Energy and the White Paper on Renewable Energy.

For more information about the course, including content and costs, contact: Keshnee Govender, Telephone: 011 709 4360 or E-mail: info@meeti.org.za

International

Bonn renewables2004

Claire Taylor

In early June 2004 the German Government is hosting an international Conference designed to further the use of renewable energy across the world. The conference will bring together Government, industry and civil society and has three main outcomes.

- A political declaration
- An international action plan
- Guidance for good policy

See www.renewables2004.de for more information

What can you do?

- Has your organization endorsed the CURES Declaration? If not, visit www.cures-network.org to see the Declaration, and to endorse it.
- The organizers of the conference have invited the public to contribute suggestions and proposals, and help draw up the Conference Issue Paper See: <http://www.renewables2004.de/en/cd/forum.asp>
- Subscribe to the biweekly newsletter, dialogue renew, is being published by the Stakeholder Forum. This can be obtained by emailing: join-renewables2004-dialogue@eforums.healthdev.org
- Visit Africa's very own page on civil society preparations for Bonn renewables2005 – see www.inforse.org/africa

- Publicise the issue - call in to radio chat shows or write short letters to newspapers

What should our expectations for Bonn renewables2004 be?

The CURES Network is a significant opportunity to make *renewables2004* a success. By signing the CURES Declaration (see www.cures-network.org), organisations from around the world are becoming part of growing international network that supports new and ambitious renewable energy and sustainable energy targets. However, signing the Declaration is not enough to ensure that *renewables2004* is a success. It is a consensus document. Consequently, it should be seen as a minimum list of what those organisations that have endorsed it want from *renewables2004*. It is up to us, as members of the CURES Network, to push various stakeholders (including governments, business and financing institutions) to commit to real targets and actions at Bonn. For instance, the CURES Declaration calls on national governments to "set new and ambitious targets for new renewables". It's up to us to ensure that our government actually sets these targets, and that they are ambitious.

So after asking the question 'what should our expectations for Bonn renewables2004 be? We must then ask, 'what work can I do before *renewables2004* ? Actions suggested at a an African Bonn Prep meeting include:

- Writing letters to national energy-related corporates telling them about Bonn and CURES, and requiring an urgent response on their policies on renewable and sustainable energy
- Involving the press at a national level
- Alerting national and regional Electricity regulators to Bonn and CURES and strongly encouraging their attendance.

If you need help or other ideas for what you can do before *renewables2004* contact Claire Taylor: claire@earthlife.org.za (011) 339 3663.

Vehicle fleet for renewables2004 fuelled by renewable energies

renewables2004: News and Information Service, 24 March 2004

An international consortium, headed by avacon AG, has won the tender "mobility provider *renewables2004*" which the Federal Environment Ministry had advertised on the Internet. The consortium has offered to provide 40 vehicles fuelled with biogas. Federal Environment Minister Jürgen Trittin: "We want to show that renewables can also be used in the transport sector. Climate friendly transport will be experienced at first hand."

EU gives RE thumbs up

Mahi Sideridou, Greenpeace European Unit

The European Parliament voted unanimously for the Renewable Energy resolution for Bonn. Unfortunately, it didn't agree to the 'at least' 20% with energy efficiency language because the Socialists thought that they would lose the Conservatives' support if they voted for it. But still, this is a very strong political signal from the Parliament to EU Member States and the European Commission.

The Resolution:

- Urges the European Commission and the Council to start a political process of setting ambitious, timetabled targets for increasing the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption, addressing the medium and long-term timeframe in advance of the International Conference in Bonn, June 2004.

- Calls on the European Commission and the Council to make the necessary efforts to reach a target of 20% contribution by renewable energy to the total inland energy consumption in the EU by 2020.
- Asks major financing institutions, such as the EIB, EBRD, World Bank and national Export Credit Agencies, to give priority to investments in renewables and energy efficiency.
- Calls on the Commission to develop a regulatory framework for accelerating the growth of markets for renewable energy and at the same time creating a level playing field, tackling administrative and trade barriers through the strict enforcement of regulations at local, national and European level.
- Calls on the Commission to undertake urgently a review of the subsidies in the energy sector.

Danish boost to wind power

Lars Georg Jensen, Climate Change & Sustainable Development, WWF Denmark

A broad coalition of parties in Denmark's Parliament, including the government and major opposition parties, agreed to a new deal on energy. The deal includes a boost to wind power after a 2-year standstill. According to the agreement, 750 MW of new wind power will be built over the next five years, increasing electricity from wind power from 20 to 25 percent of Danish electricity consumption.

The 750 MW will include two off shore wind farms of each 200 MW and 350 MW from replacements of old land based wind turbines with new ones. The new land based wind turbines, 150-200 in number, will replace about 900 old and smaller (less than 450 kW) turbines. Some of the older turbines are located at unfortunate sites, i.e. where landscape interests haven't been duly considered. Hence, the deal is to have smaller but bigger wind turbines, and avoid unfortunate sites.

For more information go to the Danish Wind Industry Association's website:

<http://www.windpower.org/en/core.htm>

Nepal: solar drinking water and solar power lighten load of villagers

Kantipur, 15 March 2004 and Nepal Samacharpatra, 30 March 2004 (Translated and summarized by CE News)

The people of Mohoria and Saduchap villages in Dhading District now have access to drinking water close to their homes, thanks to solar power. According to Hari Silwal, president of the Mohoria Self-help Group, an organization called "Shantigriha" provided 1.3 million rupees (about \$18 500) for the system and the local people contributed 500,000 rupees (about \$7 000) worth of labour. Previously, villagers had to walk more than one hour to get water.

And villagers in Ratanpur Village Development Committee in Nawalparasi districts now have electricity in their homes thanks to a solar photovoltaic programme introduced with support worth 22.58 million rupees (about \$320 000) from the Indian Government. According to the Indian Embassy, 4,800 people from 476 households have benefited from the programme. The programme, which is in its third year, is being implemented through the Central Electronics Limited of the Indian Government, in coordination with Alternative Energy Promotion Centre.

Turkey: loan to increase renewable energy capacity

Refocus Weekly, 31 March 2004

The World Bank has approved a loan of US\$202 million to increase private wind and hydro generation in Turkey. The main objective is to "increase privately owned and

operated power generation from renewable sources such as hydro and wind" within the market-based framework being implemented under changes to Turkish law approved on March 18. In line with the focus of the Bank's assistance program in Turkey, it will support convergence with the European Union on environmental and renewable energy targets, in addition to fiscal stabilization by spurring private sector investment in power generation without the government having to take on additional liabilities.

The total project will cost \$502 million and will establish a commercial financing mechanism for renewable energy projects.

World wind power to grow, but boom days over

Reuters news Service, 22 March 2004, and Refocus Weekly, 24 March 2004

The huge growth in the global wind power market will lose a lot of its pace in the next five years but will still expand at an average of 10.4 percent a year, independent Danish windpower consultancy BTM said in an annual industry survey. Wind power accounts for around one percent of global energy supply, but the sector is growing fast as part of the struggle to bring down greenhouse gas emissions.

This year, installation of wind power is expected to decline four percent from last year's installed 8,344 megawatts (MW). Looking beyond 2008, BTM said it expected wind power to grow by 25,000 MW per year, bringing the total industry to 194,000 MW. "Offshore development in Europe will take off in large scale from 2007, particularly in Germany and Britain."

BTM said a record 8,344 MW were installed worldwide in 2003, taking the total wind power past 40,000 MW, enough to power more than 19 million average European homes or 47 million people.

Europe and the United States dominated the global market with 88% of new installations, according to a joint release from the European and American wind energy associations. Outside the EU and U.S., the largest single growth was in India, which added 408 MW to move into number four spot. The most wind capacity is in Germany with 14,609 MW, followed by the U.S. with 6,374 MW, Spain with 6,202, India with 3,110 MW and Austria with 2,110 MW at the end of 2003.

Excrement energy boost for future

BBC, 10 March 2004

Scientists in the United States have found a way to convert human waste into renewable energy. Researchers have developed a device which generates electricity from sewage and think it could become a green energy source of the future. A report in the New Scientist magazine describes how the Microbial Fuel Cell uses bacteria to break down waste. The process produces electrons which can then be used to power an electric circuit. Normally the electrons would be used up by respiratory reactions in the bacterial cells and combine with oxygen molecules.

But researchers at Pennsylvania State University found the cell invention wrestles electrons away from the bacteria instead. Then the electrons can be harnessed for use. Environmental engineer Bruce Rittmann told New Scientist magazine: "There are extraordinary benefits if this technology can be made to work."

But the days when waste can produce a viable energy source could be decades away. US microbiologist Derek Lovley said: "This technology is currently at the state of development that solar power was 20 to 30 years ago. "The principle has been shown,

but there is a lot of work to do before this is widely used." **Editor:** Seems these guys are ignorant of methane capture from composting process.

WISIONS for sustainable energy

www.wisions.net

WISIONS is a new initiative of the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, which aims at supporting and spreading knowledge about existing successful projects. There are two types of support and promotion – Sustainable Energy Project Support (SEPS) and Promotion of Resource Efficiency Projects (PREP):

- SEPS aims at identifying promising project ideas on a worldwide scale and seeks to overcome existing barriers by providing technical and other support. The projects have to be in a stage prior to implementation and will be judged according to a set of ambitious criteria and the quality of a consistent implementation strategy.
- PREP has the key objectives of publishing and promoting good practice in energy and resource efficiency. People around the world are asked to present their “good practice examples”.

The most convincing projects will be promoted to multipliers, political decision-makers, scientists and activists. By doing this, they will get the publicity they deserve and provide certain ideas worldwide to improve the efficient use of resources.

So if you have an SE project that needs support or that others should know about, let WISIONS know – visit www.wisions.net

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5. SA Energy Bills

Integrated Energy Plan (IEP)

Richard Worthington, SECCP, reports that the DME is committed to new round of Integrated Energy Planning

Kevin Nassiep, Chief Director of Energy Planning at the DME, has confirmed that government will commence a new round of Integrated Energy Planning (IEP) this year, acknowledging that having learned from the previous round, the process should this time be more rigorous and independent of Eskom. The Integrated Energy Planning will involve stakeholder participation.

The existing "Integrated Energy Plan" was finally passed by parliament late last year and released to the public by March this year. The process for its development was initiated in 2000 and was more of a learning than an integrated planning process. This time round there are high hopes that elements such as the externalised cost of coal use and the social costs and benefits of decisions will be integrated into modeling and inform decisions on our energy future.

A document was circulated at the first stakeholder workshop for IEP, held early in 2001, that presented an excellent set of requirements and criteria for integrated planning. We hope this will be available to Jaff Subramoney, the Director at DME tasked with instituting the next round of IEP, under Kevin Nassiep. You can get the current IEP from the DME website or by contacting the author:

tony.surrIDGE@mepta.pwv.gov.za

We suggest those with the energy and inclination submit an advance request to be included on a stakeholders list to Jaff Subramoney at jaff.subramoney@mepta.pwv.gov.za (Tel: 012-317 9662 Fax: 012-322 5224) and ask for acknowledgement of receipt of request.

Single Energy Regulator

Contact Trust, 3 March 2004

Latest Developments: The Single Energy Regulator Bill will be tabled in Parliament when it reconvenes after the elections.

Background: The Department of Minerals and Energy plans to consolidate regulators from three particular energy sectors into a single Energy Regulator, which will fulfil the duties of the NER, the Gas Regulator, and the Petroleum Pipelines Regulator.

- For more information contact Theunis Burger at (012) 317 9114 or email:

burger@mapta.pwv.gov.za

Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management

Ganaseen Reddy, Energy Efficiency Engineer at the National Electricity Regulator writes:

“The NER is currently developing a regulatory policy on energy efficiency and demand side management. The draft policy was sent for public comments from 29 January 2004 to 27 February 2004. The draft policy is currently available on the NER website. In addition, a Stakeholder workshop was held on 10 March 2004. The draft policy is currently being amended taking into account stakeholder comments and inputs. The draft Policy will then be submitted to the NER Board for approval in March/April 2004.”

If readers have any questions, please contact Ganaseen at

ganaseen.reddy@ner.org.za or on +27 12 401 4744

White Paper for Renewable Energy for South Africa

Contact Trust, 17 March 2004

Latest Developments: The final version of the Renewable Energy for South Africa White Paper was approved in late-November of 2003. The Department aims to release a complete strategy between the end of March and the beginning of May. A number of studies are currently underway, such as market rules (**editor:** see SENSE 22 for report of government workshop for market rules) and financial incentivization for renewable energies.

Background: The White Paper aims to provide support for the development, demonstration and applications of renewable energy sources for both small and large scale applications; to support renewable energy technologies for application in specific markets on the basis of researched priorities; to promote the development of appropriate standards and guidelines and codes of practice for the correct use of renewable energy technologies; and to establish suitable information systems of renewable energy statistics.

- For more information contact Kevin Nassiep at 012 317 9617

Disaster management facilities near nuclear plants

Business Day, 9 March 2004

The DME has issued a Government Gazette notice about the development of disaster management facilities near nuclear plants. The aim is to have well-equipped facilities near nuclear power stations to deal with accidents. Provincial governments would be responsible for the development and implementation of the facilities.

Electricity Empowerment Charter

Contact Trust, 31 March 2004

Latest Developments: The Department has reported that they are currently awaiting approval by the Minister on the electricity guideline document.

Background: SA's electricity sector, in line with other sectors such as fuel, mining and financial services, is soon to have its own empowerment Charter. Unlike the other sectors this one is 100% owned by government. However government is looking at the possibility of restructuring the industry, which would include setting aside a 30% stake in Eskom for private sector participation. This would include a percentage (yet to be decided at this stage), which would be set aside for black economic empowerment.

- For more information contact David Mahuma at (012) 317 9210

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1. Events

South Africa

- April 29** [2nd workshop on formulation of renewable energy market rules](#)
DME workshop to discuss governance, transition and implementation of renewable energy market rules
Contact: Sandiswa Tshaka by 20 April
Tel: (012) 317 9569
E-mail: sandiswa@mepta.pwv.gov.za
- April 29** [Sustainable Energy Policies – Are they Blowing in the Wind?](#)
Presentation by Michael Gibbons, Bryanston Country Club, Bryanston Drive, Johannesburg
Contact: Gillian le Cordeur
Tel: (011) 789 1384
Fax: (011) 789 1385
E-mail: Gillian@vdw.co.za
- May 4** [Presentation of the Solco business case for creating an industry for renewable energy cooking techniques](#)
Energy Development Corporation, CEF Head Office, 6 Protea Place, Sandton
Contact: David Hancock, Solar Cooker SA
Tel: (011) 535 7000
Website: www.solarcookers.co.za
- May 10-12** [Renewable Energy Summit](#)
Sandton Convention Centre
Contact: IQPC
Tel: (011) 707 9200
Fax: (011) 707 9211
E-mail: registration@iqpc.co.za
Website: www.iqpc.co.za
- May 10 – 11** [Industrial and Commercial Use of Energy](#)
Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset West

Registration Fee: R1 650 – R1750 (discounts offered)
Contact: Industrial & Commercial Use of Energy
Secretariat
Fax: (021) 460 3701
E-mail: icue@ctech.ac.za
Website: www.ctech.ac.za/conf

May 12 – 14

Domestic Use of Energy
Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset West
Registration Fee: R1 650 – R1750 (discounts offered)
Contact: Domestic Use of Energy Secretariat
Fax: (021) 460 3701
E-mail: due@ctech.ac.za
Website: www.ctech.ac.za/conf

Africa

April 19-21

Nigeria Energy Week, Exhibition, Conference, & Expert
Seminars
Abuja - Nigeria
Contact: Kate McHugh
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7089 4200
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7089 4201
E-mail: kmchugh@thecwcgroup.com
Website: www.thecwcgroup.com

April 26 - 30

8th African Oil & Gas, Trade & Finance Conference
Marrakech, Morocco
Contact: Obiajulu Charles Okuh, ITE Group plc
Tel: (+44 20) 7596 5231
Fax: (+44 20) 7596 5111
E-mail: obiajulu.okuh@ite-exhibitions.com

The Rest of the World

April 14 –30

Commission of Sustainable Development - 12th session
New York, USA
Contact: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs,
Division for Sustainable Development
E-mail: dsd@un.org

April 26 - 28

Restructuring the Energy Sector in Transition Countries
Leipzig, Germany
Contact: Ombiasy GmbH
Tel: (+49 341) 355 20 2-0
Fax: (+49 341) 355 202 99
E-mail: restc@ombiasy.com
Website: <http://www.restc.com/>

May 04

Investment Security for Renewable Energies – Business
Opportunities, Political Barriers
Frankfurt, Germany
E5 (European Business Council for Sustainable Energy)

Contact: Julio Lambing
Tel: +49 (0)6446 – 926978
E-mail: lambing@e5.org
Website: www.e5.org

May 11 - 14

WindEnergy 2004 International Trade Fair
Hamburg, Germany
Contact: Hamburg Messe und Congress GmbH
Tel: (+49 40) 3569 2123
Fax: (+49 40) 3569 2171
E-mail: info@windenergy-hamburg.de
Website: <http://www.windenergy-hamburg.de/>

May 20-22

5th SOLAREXPO
International Conference & Exhibition on Renewable
Energy,
Distributed Generation and Green Building
Vicenza Trade Fair (Italy)
Contact: International Desk: Dr Max Cecchin
E-mail: exhibition@solarexpo.com
Tel: +39 (0)439 849 855
Fax: +39 (0)439 849 854
Website: www.solarexpo.com

May 30 - 31

World Renewable Energy Forum: Policies and Strategies
Bonn, Germany
Contact: World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE)
Tel: (+49 228) 36 23 73
Fax: (+49 228) 36 12 13
E-mail: info@wcre.org
Website: <http://www.wcre.org/>

A full calendar of energy events for 2004, local and international, is available on
request from: seccp@earthlife.org.za