

Transitions in South Africa's Energy Provision

NSTF Discussion Forum

DAY 2: 23 August 2023

Speakers' biographies:



09:10-09:50

How can the nuclear energy option help to solve SA's energy crisis?

Mr Loyiso Tyabashe is the Group Chief Executive Officer of the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa), appointed in January 2021. He is a professional engineer with over 20 years technical and leadership experience in the nuclear industry.

He started his engineering career in the automotive industry where he worked as a Production and a Design Engineer. Thereafter, he joined Eskom's nuclear business, working in various strategic roles in Engineering, Operations, Maintenance Planning and Execution, Internal Oversight, and Project Management. His final assignment at Eskom was leading the nuclear new build project, a role which also saw him being part of key advisory structures of the South African Government's nuclear build programme. He worked closely with key stakeholders in the Eastern Cape, Sarah Baartman District and Thyspunt where there were plans to site the nuclear power project.

In the course of his career, Mr Tyabashe has acquired vast global nuclear experience from the leading international nuclear organisations such as Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) through participation in various energy- and nuclear-related programmes and as a participant in global panel discussions. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, both from the University of Cape Town (UCT), as well as the Executive Leadership Programme (ELP)

	<p>qualification from UCT's Graduate School of Business.</p>
<div data-bbox="226 705 786 1261" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="430 1294 582 1326" data-label="Text"> <p>10:00-10:30</p> </div> <div data-bbox="229 1361 783 1435" data-label="Text"> <p><i>Implications of fossil fuel economics & climate policy on SA's energy system & economy</i></p> </div>	<p>Ms Jesse Burton is a senior researcher in the Energy Systems Research group in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Cape Town, and a senior associate at global thinktank E3G, where she provides analysis and policy advice on coal transitions globally. She is a specialist in coal and electricity markets and energy and climate change policy in South Africa. Her research focuses on the challenges and opportunities of the energy transition for coal dependent countries, including just transition strategies. Jesse has been involved in the development of Just Transition strategic plans for the South African government at national and provincial level. She was a member of the Secretariat of the Just Energy Transition Partnership, a world-first approach to financing Just Transition, and was part of the team that drafted the country's Just Energy Transition Investment Plan under the Partnership. Her research has quantified and examined the politics of fossil fuel subsidies in South Africa, the cost and greenhouse gas implications of future coal investments, the costs and risks of stranded assets in the South African energy sector, the economics of coal-fired power and coal mining, and the labour market impacts of coal transition. Recent projects have included the development of an electricity plan for South Africa in the context of global climate policy goals and air quality compliance, analysis of the employment and skills impacts of future electricity pathways, and strategies for implementing a just transition for coal workers and communities in South Africa. She has lectured widely at postgraduate level on energy, climate change and development. Jesse holds a BA (Hons) in History from Rhodes University and MSc in Energy Studies from the University of Cape Town.</p>



12:00-12:30

Regulatory review of the electricity market in SA in the context of the transition to renewable sources

Ms Ruse Moleshe is a founder and Managing Director of RUBK (Pty) Ltd, a wholly women-owned advisory and consulting company, within the energy and Infrastructure sector. She has extensive experience in the energy and infrastructure sector from a funding perspective, spanning 24 years across Sub-Saharan Africa. Project Finance and Project Preparation are her main areas of technical expertise. She has held leadership positions at the Department of Minerals and Energy, Development Bank of Southern Africa, Standard Bank, Basil Read Limited and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC). As the Head of Industrial Infrastructure at the IDC, she led a team focusing on infrastructure finance in energy, transport & logistic services, water, and telecommunications sectors. Ruse has consulted with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and published work on the “Regulatory review of the electricity market in South Africa towards crowding in private investment”. She serves as a Non-Executive Director of Revego Africa Energy Limited, a Private Equity Fund investing in renewable energy and an Independent Investment Advisory Panel member of Cennergi, a subsidiary of Exxaro Limited focusing on renewable energy.



11:00-11:30

The importance of energy efficiency

Serving as the vice chairperson for the South African Association for Females in Energy Efficiency, **Ms Ashanti Mbanga** is a sustainable energy champion with experience in the energy efficiency and clean transportation sectors. She has previously served in Provincial government- facilitating integrated and sustainable transport policy development. She later joined the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to co-ordinate and implement the South African Low Carbon Transport Project, while gaining exposure to a broader portfolio of clean energy projects. Currently, Ashanti's contribution to the energy sector has evolved to the management of the South African National Energy Development Institute's Energy Efficiency Appliance Standards and Labelling (S&L) Programme. The S&L Programme focuses on developing energy efficient policies and tools for household appliances and creates public awareness to facilitate more sustainable consumer purchasing choices in the sector, with the aim of reducing overall residential energy consumption in South Africa. She is also passionate about work-place mentorship and promoting effective career development planning amongst youth members in the sector.