

BUILDING A JUST ENERGY FUTURE FOR SOUTH AFRICA



HOW DO WE DO IT?

With Renewable Energy?



With Non-Renewable Energy?



THE CORRUPT NUCLEAR DEAL

In APRIL 2017, Earthlife Africa JHB and SAFCEI took the government to court over its nuclear deal. The court ruled that it was illegal and unconstitutional.

Rural communities, such as those in the Karoo and Northern Cape, played a central role in this success, as civil society campaigned to stop the nuclear deal and shared its concerns about the government energy plans.

NEW ENERGY POLICY

The Energy Minister, Mr Jeff Radebe, released a new draft Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) on 26 August this year. The IRP tells us what energy sources (coal, nuclear, solar, wind, gas) the government proposes to use for electricity. The deadline for comments by interested persons is 26 October 2018. This gives an opportunity for communities to make their voices heard on the draft energy plan.



WHAT ARE OUR RIGHTS?

We have a democratic right to participate in decision-making for energy in South Africa. By law, the government must consult citizens when making decisions.

IMPACT OF IRP ON CLIMATE

The draft IRP still contains a huge amount of coal-based electricity from two new coal power stations, Thabametsi and Khanyisa. Coal plants are dirty, expensive and unnecessary. At a time when we need to be reducing our carbon footprint to slow climate change, these power stations will produce very high greenhouse gas emissions. Also, the cost of building the power stations will add around R20 billion to an energy system that should be the most affordable.

RENEWABLE ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

Renewable energy is cheaper and not harmful to the environment, and accessible to all. It provides a significant number of jobs for people to improve their livelihoods, and enables energy to be locally driven. Renewable energy allows us to use our God-given, unlimited sunlight and wind, rather than expensive and polluting energy from coal, gas from fracking, or nuclear radiation.