

ENERGY IN SOUTH AFRICA

KEY STATISTICS

Aware of the constraints that energy poverty imposes on achieving sustainable development, South Africa has pursued a reform programme across the economy, including the energy sector. The energy sector reforms aim to promote a balanced, integrated system that will capitalise on the country's indigenous resources, particularly coal.



"The importance of security of supply of coal cannot be overstated, and government has prioritised this need to ensure that there is sufficient supply for existing and future power stations."

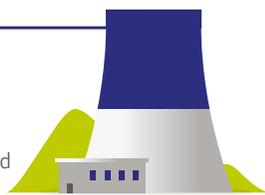
Department of Energy

KEY ENERGY FACTS

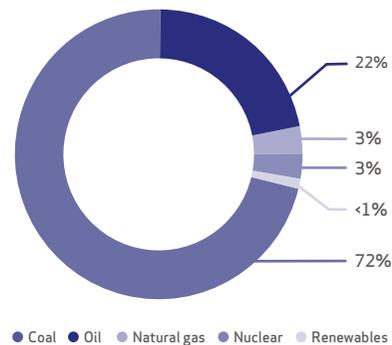
17th largest producer and consumer of electricity globally

69% of primary energy demand provided by coal in 2012

54% of primary energy demand will be provided by coal in 2040



Total primary energy consumption in S. Africa, 2013



Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2014

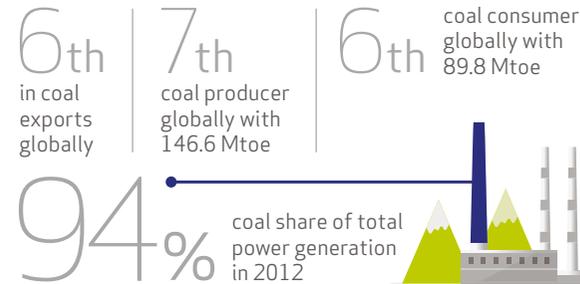
ELECTRICITY

In 2012, electricity demand was 212 TWh and this is projected to rise to:



COAL IN THE ENERGY MIX

As recognised in IEA's Africa Energy Outlook 2014, coal is the mainstay of the South African energy system, meeting around 70% of primary energy demand and accounting for more than 90% of domestic electricity output.



NDC

"The government has no intention of abandoning coal as an energy source, but is determined to find cleaner technologies that will reduce the adverse environmental impact associated with greenhouse gas emissions from coal generation."

Department of Energy

South Africa is investing heavily in transforming its energy sector. At the heart of this part of the transition to a low-carbon energy sector is a complete transformation of the future energy mix, which is designed to replace an inefficient fleet of ageing coal-fired power plants with clean and high efficiency technology going forward.

South Africa also has plans to invest half a billion dollars to capture 23 Mt of CO₂ from a coal-to-liquid plant.

ENERGY POVERTY

South Africa aims to achieve universal access to electricity by 2025. Coal is to play a major part of this outcome due to its affordability and availability.

