



ISS Corruption & Governance Programme
invites you to the
National Civil Society Energy Caucus meeting
14-15 September 2010
Townhouse Hotel, Cape Town

THEME: Sustainable energy solutions for South Africa: How can we ensure public participation and improved accountability in policy processes?

A feverish pace of energy-related policy processes has been set in motion this year. The South African government announced almost in one breath that they were to finalise the second Integrated Resource Plan, the Integrated Energy Plan and the Climate Change Response Policy, amongst others. What's more is that these policies hold dramatic implications for the country's energy future. For instance, the IRP2 will make key decisions for electricity planning for the next 20 years which locks us into particular technology-favoured choices. In this context, the dominant development ideas, interrelated institutions, incentives and interest groups play an important role in the process to draft and shape the new policies and support their implementation. South Africa is still trying to deal with a recent past where energy policy was considered as captured by narrow interests. This gave rise to what was widely known as the *minerals-energy complex*, the effects of which we are still experiencing today. As government proceeds with its new Capital Expansion Programme - developed as a response to the electricity crisis of 2008 - the building more coal and nuclear power stations, which it is largely based on, makes us question again in whose interest decisions are being taken. Furthermore, we need to understand how to foster accountability and broad based participation through policy and policy processes so that corruption is reduced and more sustainable energy solutions are favoured. Adequately tackling the crises of energy poverty, and climate change are dependent on it.

This two-day meeting of the energy caucus is designed to focus on the issues that have been thrown up by civil society engagements in the various policy processes, given the above issues. In particular, we ask and hope to engage on answers to the following questions:

- How do dominant development ideas shape energy policies?
- What has the path of government policy on energy been thus far and where has it gone wrong?
- What are the parameters within which policy processes operate? How do we consider the following for instance: legal rights including access to information & the impact of the new proposed 'secrecy' legislation, public hearings, consultations, multi-stakeholder task teams and recourse
- What is the nature, value and influence of various interests groups on energy policy?
- What are some of the key lessons we have learnt from engaging in policy processes this year?
- How well developed are mechanisms of policy oversight?
 - Parliamentary oversight?
 - Regulatory oversight?
 - How do we ensure an independent and well functioning Independent Systems Market Operator?
- What is our strategy for a way forward as civil society in dealing with policy processes that are ongoing and still to come?

DAY 1: TUESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER

08:30 Registration

09:00 Welcome & outline the objectives of the meeting
Trusha Reddy - ISS

09:15 Review of last Energy Caucus meeting
Earthlife Africa

09:25 Elect a chair for sessions 1 & 2, and elect a team to draft press release

Session 1: Demystifying the dynamics of the policy process

09:30 Going down the winding road of government policy
Mark Pickering- Independent consultant

09:50 Development paths & sustainable energy
Andrew Marquard - Energy Research Centre

10:10 Exploring the murky parameters of the policy process
David Fig- Independent Researcher and Yvette Abrahams - Commission on Gender Equality

10:30 Refreshments

Session 2: Understanding the nature and influence of interest groups

Panel 1

11:00 Nuclear: What role for nuclear interest groups post PBMR and how will they justify the big costs?
Prof. Steve Thomas - Greenwich University, UK

11:30 Coal: Will fossil fuels dominate energy with the building of Medupi?
TBC

11:45 Can the unions show why sustainable energy is better for job creation and decent work?
Cosatu

12:00 How is civil society holding narrow interest groups to account?
Muna Lakhani - IZWA and Earthlife Africa

12:15 Open discussion

13:00 Lunch

Session 2: Understanding the nature and influence of interest groups continued...

Panel 2

13:45

Renewables: An overview of the industry's potential to move SA to a sustainable energy future
Prof. Wikus van Niekerk - Stellenbosch University TBC

14:15

Renewables: What gains for the wind industry?
Kilian Hagemann, Director of Renewable Energies & member of SAWEA and Davin Chown – SAWEA Board

14:45

Independent Power Producers: Are these old faces with a new clean strategy?
Tristen Taylor - Earthlife Africa SECCP and Mark Pickering – Independent consultant

15:30

Refreshments

Session 3: Learning lessons from civil society engagements in 2010

15:45

Assessing civil society impact on the IRP2 policy process
Samantha Bailey - 350.org

16:00

Was has civil society accomplished with the campaign against the World Bank?
Bobby Peak - Groundwork

16:15

Is civil society playing an active role in developing the 'Climate Change Response Policy'?
Dorah Lebelo - GenderCC-SA

16:30

Open discussion

16:45

Workshop session: Justifying the building of the Kusile coal-fired power station: The need and base load requirements? *(Not Compulsory)*
Presentation by Kannan Lakmeharan, Eskom

19:30

Closing out of Day 1

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

08:30

Refreshments

09:00

Review of Day 1 and elect chair for sessions 4 & 5

Session 4: Institutional arrangements for monitoring & oversight of policy

09:15

What role for parliament in energy oversight?
Lance Greyling - Independent Democrats. Open discussion to follow

09:45

Can we ever get a fully independent ISMO (Independent Systems Market Operator)?
Matthews Bantsijang, Department of Energy. Open discussion to follow.

10:30	Who regulates the energy regulators? <i>Joseph Mwase – National Nuclear Regulator, Mariette Liefferink - Federation for A Sustainable Environment and the North West University</i>
11:15	Update on the IRP2 policy process – Matthews Bantsijang, Department of Energy
11:45	Launch of the civil society review of the IRP2 – Liziwe McDaid
12:00	Update on civil society representation at Nedlac – Richard Worthington – WWF-SA
12:30	Lunch break
13:30	Session 5: Strategising towards a common agenda This session is designed for everyone to benefit from learning what everyone is working on, for the purpose of assisting organisations in their particular strategic thinking after the Caucus. A 'map' will be developed by initially highlighting different policy engagements and potential advocacy interventions, and then overlay this with information provided by participants on what they/their organisations are doing. This exercise should provide a broad overview, possible common areas or overlaps, and identify gaps. The backdrop to the session will be the past 2 days of discussion where we have been trying to understand policy processes, and how to maximise the direct/indirect input by civil society and other interest group into policy processes. <i>Activities for session:</i> Samantha Bailey will provide a draft map prior to the meeting for feedback (based on information shared at the May Energy Caucus session). Then, when participants register on Day 1, they will be asked to list the advocacy and policy-related activities they have been and plan to be involved in based on the map created. These may include research, submissions, campaigns, seeking access to information, coordination with different organizations and trade unions, for example. During the course of the Caucus, we will add any new information on potential policy/advocacy interventions, and then have the overall map ready for presentation and discussion at this session 5. If called for, we will arrange break-away groups on particular interest areas/gaps. Facilitation of group discussion proposed to be done by the following people: Webster Whande – ISS, Liziwe McDaid -SAFCEI and Mark Weinberg - AIDC
14:30	Refreshments
15:00	Discussion in plenary
	Session 5 continued...
15:30	Plan of action and final press release
16:00	Closing out of Day 2
