

**SAREC AND THE RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMUNITY WELCOMES THE APPOINTMENT OF
MINISTER GWEDE MANTASHE AND HIS DEPUTY MINISTER BAVELILE HLONGWA TO THE
NEWLY COMBINED DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY**



Chairperson: Terence Govender

The South African Renewable Energy Council (SAREC) and all its associate members congratulates the newly appointed Minister Mantashe and Deputy Minister Hlongwa to the combined Department of Minerals Resources and Energy. SAREC wishes to reaffirm its commitment to building the renewable energy sector in South Africa and that its member associations recognize that the industry needs to play a more constructive role in meeting the energy challenges

The renewable energy industry appreciates the challenge that Minister Mantashe faces navigating a just energy transition to a lower carbon economy in South Africa as detailed in the National Development Plan and as a requirement to meeting the country's climate change obligations whilst needing to support a mining economy that has been heavily dependent on coal. SAREC as the association that represents the various energy sector industry viz wind, solar photovoltaic, concentrated solar power, thermal power, energy storage, equipment suppliers (OEMs) and the various IPPs & Developers, stands ready to play its role in supporting the Departments mandate to ensure affordable electricity for all South Africans, competitive secure generation to Business to support President Ramaphosa's strategy to revitalise the economy.

SAREC stands ready to support Government's ambitions for the energy sector to be one that expands local ownership and equitable participation for all South African and provide a safer and sustainable future for its future generations. SAREC will continue to ensure that renewable energy will increasingly become a central player in the provision of electricity to help drive the South African economy, as well as playing a catalytic role in the just energy transition.

SAREC strongly believes that at this critical moment, South Africa needs to find consensus on:

- a short, medium- and long-term vision for South Africa's electricity supply industry;
- the best structure and transition path of the Energy Supply Industry (ESI) to achieve those visions;
- a common platform amongst all Energy players, and
- the restructuring of Eskom and municipal suppliers to support that vision.

We will make ourselves available to the Minister in ensuring that the private sector and Government works closely together in achieving the results in the energy sector for South Africa as a whole.

Once again, congratulations to Minister Gwede Mantashe and we look forward in working with you and your team.

Terence Govender

Chairman- SAREC

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