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# The Energy Landscape in the Republic of South Africa



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# The Energy Landscape in the Republic of South Africa

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# Preface

Energy is an important driver for economic growth, and the Republic of South Africa (RSA) finds itself gripped by a prolonged energy crisis. Chronic underinvestment in the electricity sector has led to escalating power prices and a shortage of capacity during peak demand periods, leading to demand rationing and blackouts.

This brief provides an overview of the energy landscape in RSA, providing background and context to the current situation, and presenting analysis of the policies being put forward by the government for the near future. Four broad areas are covered: reserves and production of fossil fuels, the electricity sector, the rapidly growing exploitation of renewable energy and the recent push towards developing an industry around hydrogen and fuel cells.

The following section of this brief presents a methodical discussion of the energy landscape in RSA, covering the general situation, the supply and demand for energy, and the structure of the energy sector (Chaps. 1 and 2). Chapter 3 presents data and analysis of the country's fossil fuels, electricity generation and potential future sources of production and industry. Chapter 4 discusses recent developments, including the impact on green jobs and green funds, and Chap. 5 reflects on the policies that have been proposed and their potential implications. Chapter 6 puts forward some concluding remarks and recommendations.