

## **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION 2275**

**Mr P D Dexter (Cope) to ask the Minister of Energy:**

Whether she has been informed of the concerns of the University of the Western Cape that nuclear power stations are capital intensive and create fewer jobs per megawatt and per billion rand investment compared to solar power stations (details furnished); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what steps will she take to ensure that labour absorbing projects get priority to decrease our unemployment levels? NW2647E

### **REPLY**

There are a few international studies on job creation from various energy sources, with clear indications that nuclear companies compare favourably, and in some cases better than solar power stations. It is important to understand that job creation is not only dependent on the choice of technology but also on how it is deployed and the potential for competitive localisation. Jobs in the nuclear industry span over a wide range from semi skilled labour in the Uranium mining industry to highly skilled scientists and engineers in design and research of nuclear technology.

Equally, solar technology deployment will create numerous job opportunities. Our approach is to take advantage of the jobs potential based on the broad portfolio of technologies in the IRP2010.