



To: Members of the media

Embargo: None

Issued on: 19 June 2013

Subject: Department of Energy; Learners Focus Week, 24 – 28 June 2013.

The Department of Energy invites members of the media to attend and cover the Learners Focus Week programme of the Department of Energy to be held at the Western Cape Sports Centre in Cape Town during the period 24 – 28 June 2013. During this event, the department will partner with energy sector State Owned Entities (SoE's), and oil companies. Among these are the National Electricity Regulator, National Nuclear Regulator, and the Central Energy Fund, as well as oil companies like Sasol and PetroSA.

Government is concerned that skills shortages pose a significant limitation on the country's long term economic growth potential. Global experience shows that the lack of required skills is one the most significant hindrances in developing viable economic opportunities as productivity is stalled.

This annual programme is dedicated at re-dressing the imbalances of the past, and to play a significant role in removing the barriers for the learners to enter into the various professions. The programme will also provide the learners with increased knowledge of energy efficiency and its benefits for sustainable development and poverty reduction.

Please note that the Deputy Minister of Energy, Ms Barbara Thomson will address both Learners and Teachers at the Cape Sun (Southern Sun) on 28 June 2013 at 19h00.

The event is organised as follows:

Date : **24 – 28 JUNE 2013**

Venue : Western Cape Sports School: Cape Town

Time/s : 09h00 – 16h00

The members of the media are invited to attend and cover this important event.

Issued by Ms Thandiwe Maimane, Spokesperson of the Department of Energy

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