



energy

Department:
Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO DoE STAFF

14 DECEMBER 2011

Valued men and women of the Department of Energy including the: Deputy Director's General, Senior Managers, partners from the State Owned Entities and, All staff. Let me first tender apologies for the Minister and Deputy Minister who wanted to be with us today but are out of the country on government business.

Programme Director, Ladies and gentlemen, today is the 14 of December and, it is amazing to realise how quickly the year has gone by. It seems like only a short while ago when we came back from a well deserved rest at the beginning of 2011 - when we were still coming to grips with establishing ourselves as a new department.

Today, we are well on our way to growing in to a dynamic department full of energetic individuals who are making their contribution to making sure, that the Department of Energy becomes a powerhouse in government. Most auspiciously, this end of the year celebration comes hot-on-the-heels of the department's successful profiling of

energy issues at COP17. And, while COP17 as a whole has been hailed as a success for the government of South Africa, it is through the efforts of all of us that the DoE's comprehensive COP17 programme was hailed among the most outstanding in Durban. Whether you were in Durban or not, your inputs, contribution and support made it possible for the department to host a marathon +-25 side events and, support the Ministers in their many other important engagements.

The success at COP17 comes in the light of even more significant departmental successes achieved during 2011. Among the most outstanding are:

- The Cabinet approval of the 20 year energy plan, known as the Integrated Resource Plan 2010-30 of May 2011;
- The development of the Integrated Energy Modeling System for all energy carriers – including hydrocarbons;
- Commencement of facilitation of the construction of the New Multi Product Pipeline between Durban and Jo'burg;
- Achievement of the annual Integrated National Electrification Programme target of 180 000 grid and non-grid connections;
- Finalisation the Solar Water Heaters Framework – and installing approximately 200 000 solar water heaters countrywide;
- Completion of the Liquid Fuels Charter audit;
- Launching of the 7th Integrated Energy Centre at Qunu;

- Development of the Regulations for the Liquefied Petroleum Gas supplied to residential customers;
- Finalisation and publishing of the Roadmap for Clean Fuels;
- Tabling of the ISMO Bill to Cabinet;
- Promulgation of the Regulations for the New Generation/IPP Capacity;
- Commencement of the feasibility study for the Northern Cape Solar Park;
- Hosting of the African Energy Minister's Conference.
- Hosting of the independent power producer's conference
- Finalisation of the processes for the institutionalisation of SANEDI;
- Improvements in turn-around times for:
 - Petroleum licensing and;
 - Filling of vacancies.
- *And the cherry of top! – receiving an unqualified audit reports for the Department and our associated SoE from the Auditor General for 2010/11.*

Colleagues, listening to this list of achievements one may be tempted to ask - *how was it possible given the many known challenges that face the department since its birth?* **Ladies and gentlemen**, there is no easy or simple answer to this question. But, I think the old adage that says “where there is a will there is a way” is pretty accurate in

explaining our successes. As a body, the staff of the DoE have shown commitment, enthusiasm and diligence in carrying out the work of the department.

The fact that we are a new department with a huge mandate, yet suffering from a chronic lack of human, financial and infrastructural resource's has not prevented us from setting ourselves worthy goals and milestones. And the highlights list of achievements that I read out earlier is proof of our commitment – (and I won't say “resilience” for now as this can only come with time.)

Team Energy, our sector is daily becoming one of the most important nationally and internationally, because ENERGY is central to all modern day human activity. The ENERGY resource is the backbone of all economic, industrial and most important of all personal functioning in today's world. Without the ability to harness the varied energy resources which we take for-granted in our daily activities, we would not be able to travel as freely and conveniently as we do; we would not be able to speak to each other at the touch of a button; we would not be able to connect into international discourse from the comfort of our homes; we would not be able to strive for the kind of economic and industrial development that currently makes us the continental economic leader that we are. Instead we would still be

eaking out an existence as hewers and carriers of wood and other necessities.

As important as ENERGY is as an area for national and international focus in global development, the sector has also become a highly contested terrain for us. “**Renewable’s**” has become a buzz word and all areas of government find relevance in addressing issues related to renewable energy. And while it can never be our intention to keep others out of this shared space, it is imperative that we begin to assert ourselves as leaders in this space. This we can only achieve by becoming focused in knowing, understanding and, diligently performing in line with our mandate to “**ensure secure and sustainable provision of energy for socio economic development**”. **Team Energy**, our mandate must become a daily mantra for all of us. As I said at the MANCO meeting on Monday, *we must all be able to repeat it in our sleep!* Without this kind of commitment to the mandate, we will always be uncertain of our role among peers in government when energy issues are raised and debated. Let the spirit that was born at COP17 become entrenched in our daily dealings with energy issues and debates – let us own our space.

Ladies and gentlemen, having understood the need for us to own our space, it is also important to ensure that we ensure that our department complies with the highest standards of professionalism at work. How? Simple, ---- take pride in the work that you do and always make sure that you apply your mind sufficiently to the task at hand. In this way, you will avoid unnecessary mistakes in your work; you will be timeous in completing tasks; you will accord colleagues the respect they deserve and; you will take pride in your own work.

Colleagues, the work place need not become a daily grind for any of us. Rather let us bring the best of ourselves to the department. Let us welcome every day that requires our services to the people of South Africa and, serve them with verve and enthusiasm – let us be energised!

As we prepare to part ways for the Christmas season of festivities, let us recommit ourselves to becoming public servants with a difference. Looking back at what we have achieved in the past year with all our shortcomings, I am proud to count myself among you. Remember that Christmas is not just about buying lots of food and gifts. For those that celebrate it as part of the Christian faith, Christmas symbolises the birth of the son of God. Thus, the celebration of his birth is the celebration of the birth of someone who came into the world to make a

difference by showing unimaginable capacity to forgive others. Similarly, let us strive to bring a positive difference into the lives of the millions of South African who have had to live without the luxury of the varied energy sources which we regard as a right and not a privilege.

Programme Director, excuse me for having brought such a serious note to this day of festivities. But, I'm sure colleagues will take that in a good spirit.

And, let's now all go on to enjoy this day with lots of FUN, LAUGHTER and CAMARADERIE among colleagues. ENJOY the day and, let's work together towards on-going engagement and improvement of the delivery of all at Energy!

Programme Director, before I conclude, allow me to recognise colleagues whose long service contributions to the Public Service must be congratulated. Colleagues, to diligently serve an employer for periods of 10 – 30 years is becoming an anomaly in today's work place. Rather people tend to chase better opportunities, better salaries, and better benefits. While the sense of 'service' is less of a driving force for employees. Yet, institutions such as the public service need dedicated public servants whose knowledge of the system adds long term value to service delivery and, allows the institution to preserve its knowledge base.

Thus, it is my pleasure to inform you that in recognition of individual dedication to service, the Department of Energy has also chosen to recognise long service periods of 10, 15, and 25 years in addition to the standard 20 and 30 years commonly recognised by the Public Service at large.

Thank you, Ke a leboga, Ngiya bonga, Ndo leboa, Baie dankie aan almal!

END

LONG TERM SERVICE AWARDS

Programme Director to guide with the process for the Reading and hand over of the Awards by the Director-General:

10 Years

Nkutshweu SL	Maluleka ML
Maqubela TB	Mkhize MW
Phago MM	Mahlangu MM
Themba LA	Monale PE
Chauke LO	Tuwani NP
Mbedzi FT	Sidogi NE
Mzolo ON	Moyake ND

Zungu TN

Mnona NR

Mafafo V

15 Years

Masemola LR

Chabalala GA

Khan S

Musi BN

Mashapa T

Leketi GF

Dingiswayo EP

20 Years

Van der Merwe J

Rakau JR

Bantsijang MM

Vorster E

Van der Merwe SM