



Centre for
Environmental Rights
Advancing Environmental Rights in South Africa

Our presenters

Robyn Hugo heads the Centre for Environmental Rights' Pollution and Climate Change Programme Programme, which works predominantly in a collaborative project with partners groundWork, the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance, the Vaal Environmental Justice Alliance (VEJA), and the Highveld Environmental Justice Network – who all support several community-based organisations – to promote environmental justice, ensure compliance with environmental laws, and strengthen civil society participation in decisions on industrial pollution, waste, and land use; and with partners groundWork and Earthlife Africa Johannesburg - in the Life After Coal campaign - to challenge the exploitation of coal for electricity. Before moving to the Cape, Robyn worked for 7 years at Bowman Gilfillan in Sandton, specialising in employment and public law. She holds a BA LLB from Stellenbosch University, and an LLM in Environmental Law from the University of Cape Town. rhugo@cer.org.za

Jesse Burton is a researcher and PhD student at the Energy Research Centre (ERC) at the University of Cape Town, where she also teaches on energy and climate change policy. She holds an Honours degree in History from Rhodes University and a Masters in Energy Studies from the ERC. Her research interests are focused on the South African coal and electricity sectors. Some of her recent work has examined stranded assets, the political and economic dynamics of the coal market, and the politics of the electricity sector in South Africa. jesse.burton.uct@gmail.com

Peta Chennells is the Senior Investment Analyst at Mergence Investment Managers, where she is responsible for sourcing and executing on deals in the Mergence suite of impact funds, including the High Impact Debt Fund and the Renewable Energy Debt Fund. Prior to joining Mergence, Peta was the Investment Manager at Metropolitan Capital, a boutique private equity and corporate advisory company, specialising in the unlisted financial services sectors and focusing on corporate social investment. Peta qualified as a CA (SA) in 2007 and was placed 1st with honours in Part 2 of the SAICA National Board Exam. She also has a Masters in Financial Management from the University of Cape Town. peta@mergence.co.za



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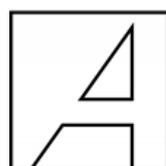


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Chris Yelland obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Natal in 1976, and is the founder and managing director at EE Publishers (Pty) Ltd, the publisher of EngineerIT, Energize, Vector and PositionIT magazines. Chris was the winner of the 2002 South African Bureau of Standards Media Award for “exceptional contribution to increasing the awareness of standardisation and related issues through the media”. In 2003, he won a merit award in the Energy category of the 2003 Siemens Profile Awards, “recognising journalistic contribution to excellence in the field of science and technology”. At the 2004 ABB Excellence in Technology Reporting Awards, Chris received the ABB Technology Journalist of the Year Award for 2004. In 2009, Chris won the South African National Energy Association (SANEA) Journalism Award for “special efforts within the field of journalism to promote greater understanding of energy and its role in sustaining human endeavours”. Chris is a fellow of the SAIEE, a senior member of the IEEE (USA), and a member of the IET (UK). He is also a registered Chartered Engineer with the Engineering Council in the UK. chris.yelland@ee.co.za

Dr Tobias Bischof-Niemz Dr Tobias Bischof-Niemz is the Centre Manager: Energy at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria, where he leads the establishment of an integrated energy research centre and a growing team of scientists and engineers. Before joining the CSIR, he was with South Africa's electric utility Eskom in the Energy Planning Unit, where he was part of the team that developed the long-term power-capacity expansion plan (Integrated Resource Plan - IRP) for South Africa. Dr. Bischof-Niemz is member of the Ministerial Advisory Council on Energy (MACE) that advises Minister Joemat-Pettersson on long-term, strategic energy topics. TBischofNiemz@csir.co.za

Zanie Cilliers has a BSc degree, majoring in Environmental and Geographical Science, Ocean and Atmosphere Science, and Archaeology from the University of Cape Town, with a BSc (Hons) degree in Atmosphere Science. She started working at Sustainable Energy Africa in 2008. Zanie's main focus areas include data collation and analysis, writing and energy modelling, using programmes such as EnergyPlus and LEAP (Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning). She has been involved in LEAP energy modelling for the City of Cape Town and eThekweni, where the modelling outputs are used to advise the metros in their planning towards a sustainable energy future. She also undertook a LEAP modelling exercise for the largest urban centres in South Africa in order to identify the emissions mitigation potential of urban South Africa in relation to the national mitigation potential. zanie@sustainable.org.za



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