

OVERVIEW AND STATUS OF DME'S RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY DOCUMENT

The White paper on energy policy was adopted in December 1998

OVERALL ENERGY POLICY OBJECTIVES

- Increased access to affordable energy services
- Improved governance of the energy sector
- Stimulating economic development
- Management of energy related environmental impacts Pursuing energy supply security through greater diversification

THE ENERGY POLICY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICY GUIDELINES ON RENEWABLE ENERGY:

- Provide focused support for the development demonstration and applications of Renewable Energy sources for both small and large scale applications
- Support Renewable Energy Technologies for application in specific markets on the basis of researched priorities
- Facilitate the production and management of the woodlands through a national social forestry programme for the benefit of rural households
- Promote the development of appropriate standards and guidelines and codes of practice for the correct use of Renewable Energy Technologies
- Establish suitable information systems of Renewable Energy Statistics (Currently a Renewable Energy resource database is being developed)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

- The overall goal is to integrate available Renewable Energy Resources into the main energy economy
- Globally the renewable energy industry will grow rapidly over the next decade
- Government is committed to providing an enabling environment
- Also to integrate Renewable Energy Development with energy efficiency and environmental consideration

KEY DRIVERS

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

- Integrated Photovoltaic Supply
- Subsidisation of the technologies
- Ownership of the technologies
- Involvement of the utility and municipality

RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

- Rural and urban applications

RENEWABLE ENERGY ACTION PLAN

SOLAR PASSIVE BUILDING DESIGN

- DME has ensured the introduction and use of solar passive design tools and standards
- DME forms part of the Environmentally Low-cost Housing task Team

NATIONAL SOLAR WATER HEATING PROGRAMME

- DME is developing details for the widespread use of solar water heaters in South Africa
- Verification of quality assurance

WIND ENERGY

Government is promoting the establishment of grid connected wind farms

Darling Windfarm Demonstration Project

The strategy will focus on the development of a National Plan for wind generated electricity through the following:

- Development of regulatory mechanism
- promoting independent power production
- Strengthening the synergy between environment impacts and wind energy technologies
- Investigating the economics of wind farms in conjunction with pumped storage facilities
- The above will be achieved by collaborating with international founders

SOLAR COOKER PROGRAMME

- Marketing and dissemination of solar cookers
- Local manufacturing resulting in job creation
- Mass production

NATIONAL PUBLIC EDUCATION, TRAINING AND MARKETING

- The DME will support endeavours to ensure the inclusion of Renewable Energy training in the National Qualification Framework
- Informal and formal training regarding maintenance of the technologies
- Public awareness

BIOMASS

- Development of efficient fuel wood stoves
- Conservation of the woodlands

BIOGAS PROGRAMME

- Use of biodigesters to address thermal energy needs

WOMEN AND ENERGY

- Women as energy users
- Women as drivers in rural development
- Women as participants in career guidance

ACTIVATING RURAL ECONOMIES

- Principle of Integrated Sustainable Rural Development
- Utilisation of energy as a catalyst for economic development
- Hybrids and Mini grids
- Development of solar power plants

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Solar Thermal Power Generation
- To encourage innovation

WEBSITE ADDRESS

- <http://www.dme.gov.za>
- Deadline for comments 15 February 2001