

Report of Presentation at Energy Expo, Gauteng, 6 June 2008

BACKGROUND

SEA was invited to do a presentation on the development of the Western Cape Sustainable Energy Strategy at the Gauteng Energy Expo on 6 June 2008. Due to prior SEA commitments, Ferrial Adam was asked to present on behalf of SEA. The final presentation was a joint effort by Leila Mohamed and Ferrial Adam.

FEEDBACK

The presentation was aimed at high level politicians and the public sector. However, the audience comprised mostly of local government officials and community development workers. The presentation touched on a number of issues that were relevant to all stakeholders' and included different types of energy, challenge of transport, the use of energy, and the importance of renewable energy.

Most of the questions were mostly about local government issues and challenges. However, the feedback received on the SEA presentation was positive with the province indicating that they would like to have further discussions on how to develop a strategy for the Gauteng province. As this was not the mandate of the presenter, SEA's contact details were provided to any parties interested in more information or guidance.

COMMENT

The Gauteng government has stated that they would like to have a strategy in place by the beginning of 2009. In my view this is not realistic, given that much of the groundwork still has to be done. SEA has useful expertise and knowledge that must be shared. The Western Cape strategy was mentioned a few times in many other people's presentations over the two days as a good example of what is required in Gauteng.