

**Gallagher Convention Centre uses renewable energy  
to power 2009 Climate Change Summit**

South Africa's Climate Change Summit 2009, hosted at Gallagher Convention Centre from 3 to 6 March, on behalf of DEAT and DST will ensure that it reduces the negative climate change impacts of the event, by sourcing electricity generated from renewable energy resources.

The renewable energy procurement will use the delivery mechanism of TRECs (tradable renewable energy certificates), supplied by GreenX Energy in Cape Town. Unlike a carbon trade, a TREC does not simply offset carbon emissions (through tree planting, for example). A TREC certifies the actual sale and use of electricity derived from renewable energy resources and generated in a sustainable manner. By using TRECs the carbon footprint of an event, or business, is inherently reduced (through the use of non-carbon emitting electricity generation) and consequently the remaining offsetting requirements are reduced.

At the time of generation, the certified green generator is issued a certificate (TREC) per MWh that certifies the source and type of green electricity produced. A consumer purchases the certificate and when electricity is consumed together with the purchase of the green certificate, effectively green electricity has been consumed.

GreenX Energy will provide the Climate Change Summit 2009 (CCS 2009) with 66 TRECs (corresponding to 66 MWh), the amount of energy researchers have estimated the Summit will consume over the four-day period. This energy is sourced from the Umzimkulu Mill of Illovo Sugar, where electricity is generated from bagasse (the residue from crushed sugar cane).

These TRECs are independently issued, and will be transferred and redeemed in the GCC account by Nano Energy; the transaction conforms to the regulatory frameworks that are currently being established by the Department of Minerals and Energy through the SA TREC Team (see below). As in the case elsewhere in the world, the procurement of Green Power by means of TRECs is understood to be a 'market-pull' mechanism which is complementary to the 'market push' approach of a feed-in tariff for renewable energy.

The practical outcome of the Green Power procurement for this event will be the following savings in resources:

- Water consumption saved: 87 200.00 litres
- Coal consumption saved: 37 000.00 kg

And the prevention of the following waste and emissions:

- Ash production avoided: 11 000.00 kg
- Ash emitted avoided: 15 kg
- SO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided: 574 kg
- NO<sub>x</sub> emissions avoided: 290 kg
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided: 79 300.00 kg

(These figures are based on UNFCCC/CDM methodology Source: Eskom Annual Report 2008)

In addition, the procurement will support South Africa's Renewable Energy target of 10 000.00 GWh/annum by 2013 and, of course, demonstrates a commitment to the Climate Change objectives which are the subject of the Summit.

GreenX Energy has supplied TRECs over the past four years to a number of international conferences hosted in South Africa; these include the ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) World Congress in 2006; the World Biofuels Markets Africa in 2006; the Southern Africa Solar Water Heating Summit in 2007; the Western Cape Province Renewable Energy and Climate Change Summit in June 2007 and the Green Building Council of SA Conference in 2008. GreenX Energy pioneered the concept of TRECS in the South African market in association with the National Energy Regulator during the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002.

*WWF Climate Change Programme Manager Richard Worthington said South Africa could lose credibility it has earned for being one of the most active among developing countries in fighting climate change if it did not follow through on targets.*

*"We risk having to live with ever-increasing fuel prices and the possibility of international penalties or trade barriers for South African exports manufactured with dirty energy," he said.*

*Worthington said that in addition to international funding and subsidies, South Africa can use a feed-in tariff and tradable renewable energy certificates to make it affordable. If coupled with efficiency measures, it could help it save money, cutting electricity costs to 18% below the cost of a coal-fired plant.*

*Reuters*

*26th February 2009*

*<http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/renewables-a-cheaper-energy-source-for-sa---wwf-2009-02-26>*

For more information about GreenX Energy and Tradeable Renewable Energy Certificates (TRECs), contact GreenX Energy Managing Director Glynn Morris on +27 21 701 1755, +27 83 780 9460; email [glynn.morris@greenx.energy.com](mailto:glynn.morris@greenx.energy.com); or visit [www.greenxenergy.com](http://www.greenxenergy.com).

For more information about the SA TRECs team, visit [www.dme.gov.za/energy/renew\\_TRECS.stm](http://www.dme.gov.za/energy/renew_TRECS.stm).

For more information about the CCS 2009, visit [www.ccs2009.co.za](http://www.ccs2009.co.za)

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