

# NEWSFLASH

Our future now!

## #CANCELCOAL OUR FUTURE NOW

### Leading the Charge to End New Coal for our Just Future

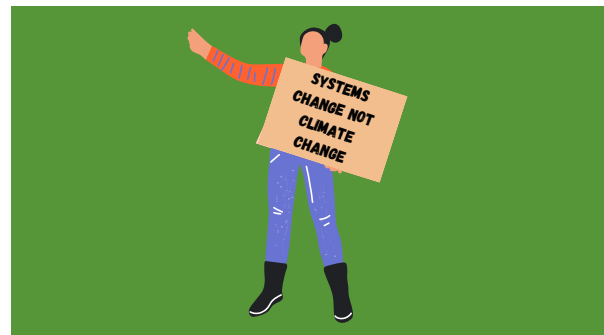


## WELCOME

Welcome to the #CancelCoal Newsflash where you can keep in the loop with the latest developments in our fight against new coal power in South Africa. With each issue, we'll bring you updates on our landmark legal case, the latest news updates related to the just energy transition from around the world as well as sharing events and a platform for activists to share their hopes and imaginations for a fairer future. We hope you enjoy the read!

## LATEST NEWS INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- NEWSFLASH
- ART OF THE WEEK
- ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



# NEWSFLASH

## **MASSIVE SOLAR FARM LAUNCHES IN SOUTH AFRICA**

Norwegian company Scatec ASA launched its 540 MW Kenhardt solar and battery project in South Africa's Northern Cape. The facility, spanning 879 hectares, features one million solar panels and 456 battery units, making it one of the world's largest hybrid solar and battery storage sites. With a capital expenditure of R19 billion, it employed 2,500 during construction. Awarded under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme, the project will supply consistent power to Eskom under a 20-year agreement. Minister Kgosisentsho Ramokgopa hailed it as pivotal for South Africa's energy future, emphasising its competitiveness and contribution to overcoming power shortages. However, limited grid capacity currently hampers its full potential. [MORE HERE](#)

## **SASOL MAKES GLOBAL CO2 EMISSIONS BLACKLIST**

Sasol joins the Carbon Majors database's blacklist of 57 major emitters responsible for 80% of global carbon dioxide emissions from 2016 to 2022, ranking at 56. Despite commitments under the Paris Agreement, emissions from fossil fuel companies have risen. Sasol aims to reduce emissions by 30% by 2030 and achieve Net Zero by 2050. However, shareholder activists doubt their ability to meet these targets, citing a history of missed goals. Sasol plans to transition to green hydrogen production but faces skepticism due to ongoing emission increases. [MORE HERE](#)

## **PRIVATE RENEWABLES PROCUREMENT MAY MITIGATE BOOM-BUST CYCLES CURBING SOUTH AFRICA'S GREEN INDUSTRIALISATION**

Private procurement of large-scale renewables in South Africa, alongside public efforts, could help stabilise the industry, reducing boom-bust cycles, says a GreenCape report. Anticipating 32 GW of renewables capacity by 2030, the report forecasts substantial private contributions, with 6 GW of solar PV and 4 GW of wind power expected. The emergence of private markets, facilitated by regulatory reforms, aims to counter past reliance on public procurement. This shift offers stability for manufacturers and stimulates domestic investment. The report estimates a total market size of R42 billion for renewables components by 2030, highlighting opportunities for domestic manufacturing. Meanwhile, a surge in rooftop solar and battery installations underscores growing demand, potentially stabilising the market further. [MORE HERE](#)

## **EL NIÑO HAS ENDED BUT THE FULL WRATH OF ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT IS STILL TO COME**

El Niño has officially ended, but its repercussions persist, particularly in South Africa, where a scorched maize crop has triggered food inflation and shortages in neighboring countries. Although Australia's Bureau of Meteorology confirmed the end of El Niño, its impact lingers, affecting agricultural output and commodity prices. South African maize futures surged, portending retail price hikes and delaying hopes for interest rate cuts. The drought's ripple effects extend to wildlife and energy supply, exacerbating regional challenges. Globally, cocoa and coffee prices skyrocket due to extreme weather events. While the transition to La Niña may bring relief, the enduring consequences of El Niño underscore the broader economic and ecological toll. [MORE HERE](#)

## **DMRE EXPANDS BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE CAPACITY WITH 616MW PROCUREMENT IN FREE STATE**

The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) has initiated the third bid window for battery energy storage projects, aiming to procure 616MW across five sites in the Free State. These substations, identified by Eskom, aim to enhance the region's energy resilience and facilitate renewable energy integration. This move underscores the government's commitment to expanding battery energy storage infrastructure, following previous successful bidding rounds. The deadline for proposals has been extended to accommodate bidder preparations. The DMRE's expansion in this sector began in March 2023, resulting in significant investment and involvement from companies like EDF and Scatec Africa. Additionally, the government is advancing renewable energy procurement efforts through Bid Window 7 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme. [MORE HERE](#)

## **THE LEGAL BATTLES CHANGING THE COURSE OF CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate litigation is reshaping the fight against climate change globally, with over 2,500 lawsuits recorded worldwide. These legal battles target governments, fossil fuel companies, and airlines, demanding action to address climate crises. Notable cases include Urgenda's successful suit against the Dutch government, resulting in emissions reduction mandates. The recent European Court of Human Rights ruling against Switzerland further emphasises the legal recognition of climate-related human rights violations. Litigation has influenced policy shifts, project rejections, and corporate behaviour changes, signalling a growing recognition of climate risk by financial institutions. Despite some setbacks and enforcement challenges, climate litigation remains a potent force in driving climate action and corporate accountability worldwide. [MORE HERE](#)


# ART OF THE WEEK

By Brenna Quinlan

" I CHOOSE JOY  
OVER DESPAIR.  
NOT BECAUSE  
I HAVE MY HEAD  
IN THE SAND, BUT  
BECAUSE JOY IS WHAT  
THE EARTH GIVES ME  
DAILY AND I MUST  
RETURN THE GIFT."

-Robin Wall Kimmerer



@brenna\_quinlan 

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT ON: BRENNA QUINLAN

Brenna Quinlan is an illustrator and educator drawing a better world into being. She has ridden a second-hand bicycle from Canada to Panama, taught permaculture across South America and Australia, and she hasn't bought a new item of clothing in over ten years. Her creative advocacy has earned her international acclaim; she was the winner of the prestigious Circle Awards in 2022, and has been profiled by the most celebrated in sustainability media.

As an illustrator, Brenna has worked with the Australian Red Cross, the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, Plan International, Milkwood, the Bob Brown Foundation, CSIRO and Gardening Australia's Costa Georgiadis.

As an educator, Brenna has taught alongside the biggest names in permaculture, including Rosemary Morrow, David Holmgren, Hannah Moloney, and the late Dan Palmer.

She co-runs Grow Do It Permaculture Education, a project focused on bringing climate solutions to kids (and their grown ups) through art, music and creativity.

Brenna is currently building her own strawbale house out of reclaimed materials on Bibbulmin Menang boodja, in an intentional community in South-West Western Australia.

### Q&A

**How do you believe art can contribute to positive social change?**

Art is a language that all of us speak, and it can move us on a level that words can't.

**Are there any specific social or environmental issues that you are particularly passionate about addressing through your art?**

The 3 permaculture ethics of earth care, people care and fair share.

**What message are you trying to share with the piece of art you've shared with us?**

That we're all in this together, and that change is possible

**Where can people follow you and/or see more of your work online?**

**Instagram:** @brenna\_quinlan

**Facebook:** Brenna Quinlan

**LinkedIn:** Brenna Quinlan

**Website:** brennaquinlan.com

