

Energy Awards '09

Banquet & Awards Ceremony 30 July
2009



SANEA

The South African National Energy Association
Energy People Working Together

SANEA ENERGY AWARDS 2009

Categories & Short-listed Candidates

SANEA Energy Award 2009

Dr Rob Adams

Apart from his years of achievement in Government where he played a major role in defining national innovation and science and technology policy, in recent years Rob has been instrumental in fundamentally redefining national nuclear energy policy. He has used his position as chief executive of NECSA as a platform for debate on the role that nuclear energy has to play in South Africa's future. He has defined an exciting vision of a nuclear industry in SA which adds value throughout the entire nuclear value chain – from uranium extraction to nuclear power generation. This vision has since been captured in a revised nuclear policy for SA which will have a major impact on the energy sector as well as on the South African economy in future years.

SASOL Limited

SASOL is a South African company. Since the 1960's SASOL has been developing coal to liquids technology to a point where it has become commercially viable. The first commercial plant was built in Sasolburg and then in the 1980's SASOL expanded its operations at Secunda. SASOL has greatly reduced South Africa's dependence on imported oil and has thus made a major contribution to the nation's energy sustainability. SASOL is now recognised as a world leader in this particular technology and is expanding its operations into Asia. SASOL has most certainly enhanced the credibility of SA as an innovative nation. There is no doubt that SASOL meets the criteria for the SANEA ENERGY AWARD. It has shown leadership and innovation in the coal to liquids sector and has shown initiative in taking this technology off-shore to Asia. The visionary leadership of SASOL has had a major and sustained impact on the economy of South Africa. Furthermore SASOL has also been heavily involved in Black Economic Empowerment and has done much to enhance the lives of all its employees. SASOL has also been involved with Universities and Technikons supporting the skills development drive that is so essential for South Africa's future. SASOL is a role model corporation in the South African Energy Sector.

AngloGold Ashanti

AngloGold Ashanti is the world's third largest gold producer, domiciled in South Africa with operations in ten countries on four continents. AGA has in recent years demonstrated an outstanding ability to achieve energy efficient production in South Africa. The company's energy efficient focus goes back to 1996 when the Vaal Reefs facility was re-engineered with a focus on energy management and efficiency. In 2005 AGA signed up as a voluntary participant in the national Energy Accord. In 2007 when Mark Cutifani took the reins as CEO he introduced an energy and environmental conservation programme, and set internal targets to reduce energy consumption by 15% and decrease the company's greenhouse gas emissions per ounce of gold by 15%. The Eskom energy crisis of January 2008 gave further impetus to this programme. In the first 6 months of last year the company succeeded in reducing its energy consumption by more than 6% while continuing to maintain optimal levels of production. AGA developed its IT networks to enable real time energy monitoring. AGA were pioneers in the real time pricing initiative whereby the system operator sets hourly prices a day ahead based on projected demand and available generation and transmission resources thereby enabling the consumer to control demand according to the pricing signals. Energy planning became part of the business planning cycle in 2005 and energy reduction targets and initiative tracking formed an integral part of the energy strategy before the Energy Accord was initiated. This awareness of energy use has contributed to AGA South African mines reducing energy use in absolute terms by about 10% since 2004 and by 8% when viewed from an energy intensity perspective.

Clean Coal Research

The Clean Coal Technology research group of the North West University is now a world recognised centre for coal research. Their credibility is such that they were asked to organise the International Pittsburgh Coal Conference in 2007, again in 2008 and will now be arranging the 2009 event in Cape Town in October. NWU has a long history of coal research. In the past work was done on coal to liquid fuels technology and graduates from this period still play a major role in the industrial applications of this technology. Some eight years ago, after wide consultation with various local and international experts in the field, the focus of the research moved towards preserving the environment. The research is divided into three main categories:- [1] coal combustion and gasification, [2] gasifier operation optimisation and [3] fine coal processing and coal breakage.