

The Split Verdict on JET

A split verdict is when the same people say yes and no to the same plan. Fifty-one South African energy stakeholders back the Just Energy Transition for what it does to the environment, and expect it to damage the livelihoods built on coal. Thirty-nine of them hold both views at once.

WHAT THE JUST ENERGY TRANSITION IS

South Africa's plan to move electricity generation off coal and onto renewable sources such as wind and solar — and to do it in a way that protects the workers, small businesses and towns that coal currently supports. The word *just* carries that second half: the change is meant to be fair to the people it disrupts.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

1.75

Mean of the five livelihood items — between “very negative” and “negative”

2.9

POINT GAP

Distance between the two verdicts on the 1-5 impact scale

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

4.61

Between “positive” and “very positive”

39/51

hold both positions at once — environment positive, livelihoods negative

48/51

expect negative impact on plant employees *and* on contractors alike

92%

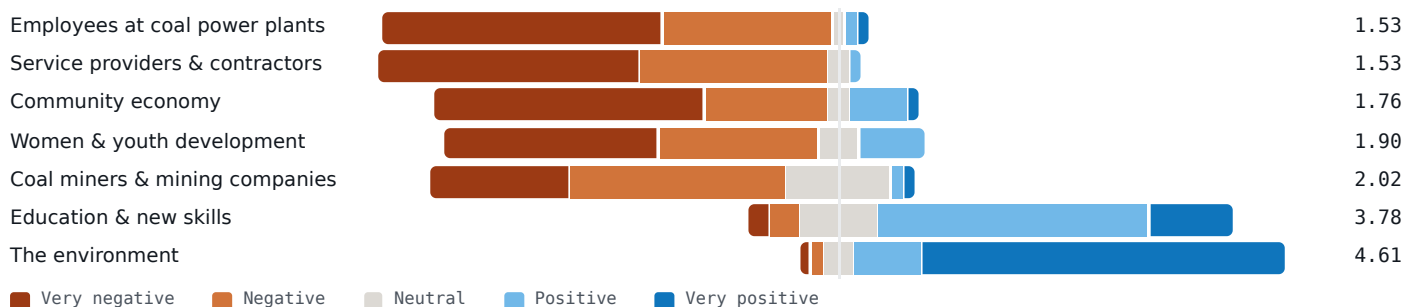
name Mpumalanga among the most affected provinces; 18 name it alone

7/12

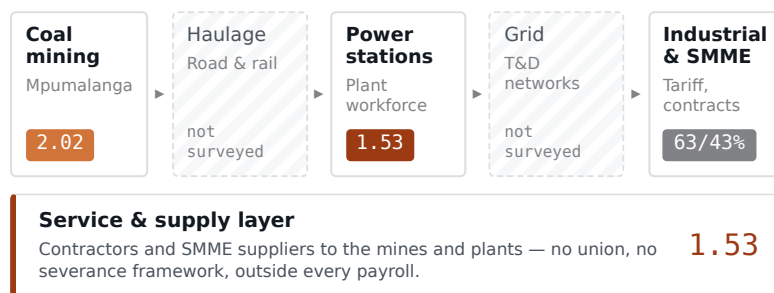
SMME respondents unaware that any coal plant is being decommissioned

01 Six of seven dimensions have already made up their mind

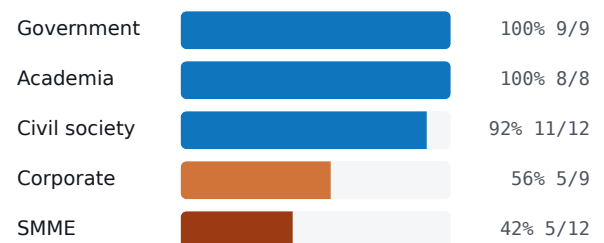
n = 51 · scale 1–5



02 Exposure does not taper along the chain



03 Where the information stops



Aware that coal plants are being decommissioned. The schedule reaches everyone who writes the policy and misses most of the firms it will invoice.

04 What follows

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| 01 Stop selling the environmental case
It is already won at 4.61 with 90% positive. | 02 Support past the plant gate
Contractors score the same 1.53 as employees. | 03 Publish the decommissioning schedule
A dissemination fix, not a negotiation. | 04 Make skills the load-bearing commitment
The only livelihood item scoring positive. | 05 Consolidate local evidence
Grassroots consultation, documented. |
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