



THE GLOBAL REVOLUTION IN ENERGY

AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR SOUTH AFRICA

presented by Prof Anton Eberhard

1 NOVEMBER 2018 | 17H00 FOR 17H30
SNAPE LECTURE THEATRE 3C, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

The rapid rate of innovation in energy means that the future shape and nature of this sector will soon be very different to the present. The relative prices of power generation sources have switched and solar and wind energy are now, in most countries, the cheapest grid-connected sources of electricity and as storage prices plummet, off-grid power solutions are more cost-competitive.

The electricity system is becoming decentralized as a multitude of smaller, incremental investments are made by utilities, industries and households, with the latter becoming producers as well as consumers of power. Networks and mini-grids are increasingly radial, meshed and fractal, and - as energy, transport and communications technologies converge, along with the internet of things, machine learning, demand-side management, and block-chain payment systems - energy services will be democratized and controlled to match individual and community needs more optimally.

The institutional design of Eskom, which originated in the past century, is no longer fit for purpose. Indeed, it may become increasingly irrelevant as new, innovative and competitive energy systems evolve. A new business model is needed if the utility is to survive.

This lecture is open to the public and will be followed by light refreshments (courtesy of the South African Academy of Engineering - SAAE)

[Click here](#) to RSVP by 29 October 2018 or for further queries contact Me Heleen Duffey at office@saae.co.za

Please see UCT map below for directions (Snape Lecture Theatre 3C is located in B4)



Anton Eberhard is a Professor Emeritus and Senior Scholar at the University of Cape Town where he directs the Management Programme in Infrastructure Investment, Reform and Regulation at the Graduate School of Business. His research and teaching focuses on governance and regulatory incentives to improve utility performance, the political-economy of power sector reform, investment challenges, and linkages to sustainable development. He has worked for more than 35 years in the energy sector across Sub-Saharan Africa and other developing regions, and was the founding Director of the Energy and Development Research Centre. He is a Foundation Member of the Academy of Science of South Africa and previously chaired the Deputy-President's Advisory Panel on South Africa's Electricity Crisis.

Directions to [Snape Lecture Theatre 3C, Upper Campus, University of Cape Town](#):

