

Power solutions for mines in Sub-Saharan Africa – captive power plants, diesel generators, and cross-border power trading

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One of the key factors affecting the operation of mines in Sub-Saharan Africa is the availability of a reliable, uninterrupted supply of power. However, Sub-Saharan Africa has a severe power deficit which means that mines are often not guaranteed to receive a reliable supply from the national power utility. As a case in point, when Eskom, the South African power utility, instituted a load shedding programme in 2015, this resulted in interruptions to mining operations which ultimately led to a contraction in South Africa's GDP that year.

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