



THE GREEN CONNECTION

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National Treasury

Private Bag X115

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South Africa

To: Minister of Finance

BUDGET TIPS FOR 2025

The Green Connection is an environmental and social justice civil society organisation that promotes sustainable livelihoods and the achievement of environmental rights. We submit these comments in response to an invitation by the Minister of Finance on the budget for 2025.

Comments:

- Fund Energy Planning: South Africa needs an Integrated Energy Plan as per section 6 of the National Energy Act, 2008)) that will guide energy investments while addressing climate change, and working with marginalised communities
- Allocate more funds towards growing the renewable energy economy. A [study](#) has shown that there are 1 million jobs that could be created in addressing climate change.
- Create jobs through forcing mine owners to clean up and rehabilitate abandoned mines.
- Provide support to small-scale fishers cooperatives and co-management structures as they contribute towards local economic development.
- Cut the [MTEF](#) allocation of R813 million to the Council for Geoscience for oil and gas exploration activities for the year of 2023/2024/2025. [Research](#) shows that methane emissions from gas could be 80 times more potent than those of carbon dioxide over a 20-year period.
- Funding can also be directed away from nuclear and towards finalizing the critical mineral strategy plan to avoid mistakes of social labour plans of the past.
- Stop subsidies to PetroSA, force them to pay to clean up and ensure that there is enough money for the rehabilitation costs incurred over the years.

In conclusion part of ensuring the just energy transition does not leave anyone behind, government should prioritize rehabilitating mines, investing in more renewable energy projects, ensuring mineral beneficiation supports communities that have been marginalized.

Yours faithfully,

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