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Just Transition in South Africa: the role of sustainable mine closure in ensuring a quality life for all South Africans



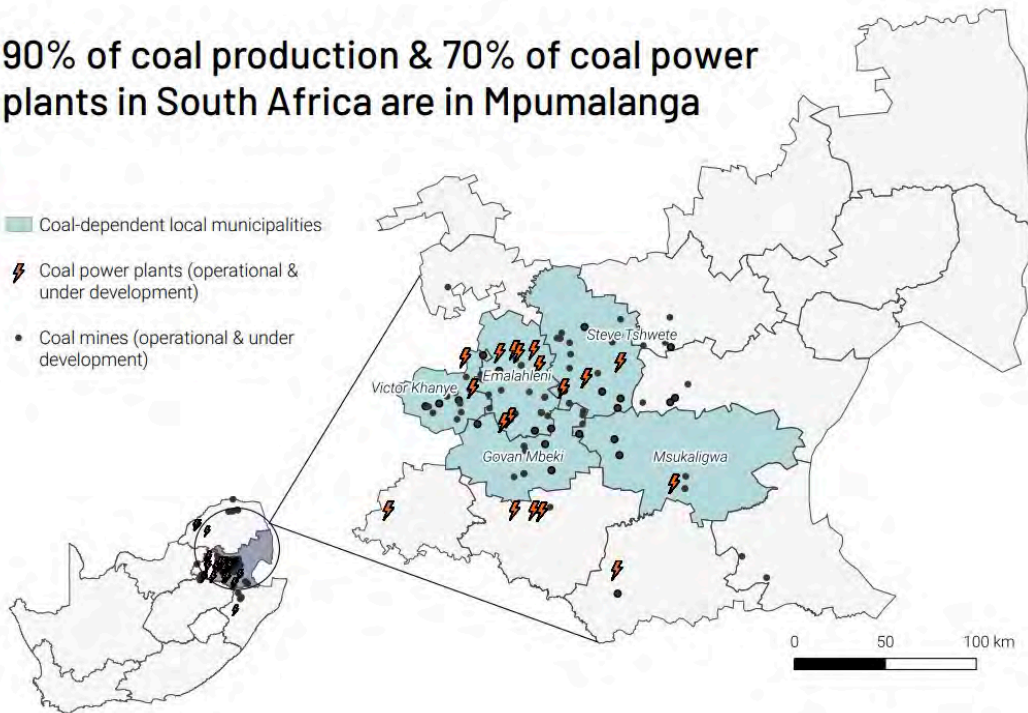
ESRG

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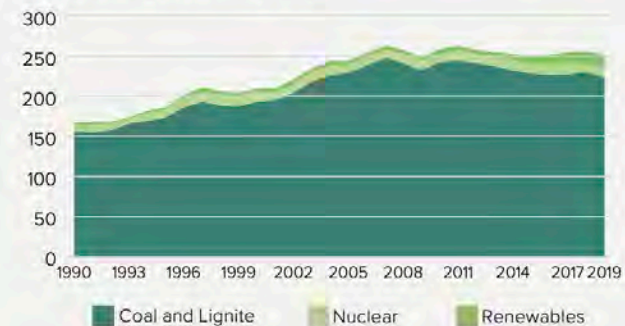
Coal is the backbone of South Africa's energy system and highly concentrated in Mpumalanga

90% of coal production & 70% of coal power plants in South Africa are in Mpumalanga

- Coal-dependent local municipalities
- Coal power plants (operational & under development)
- Coal mines (operational & under development)



Gross power generation (TWh)

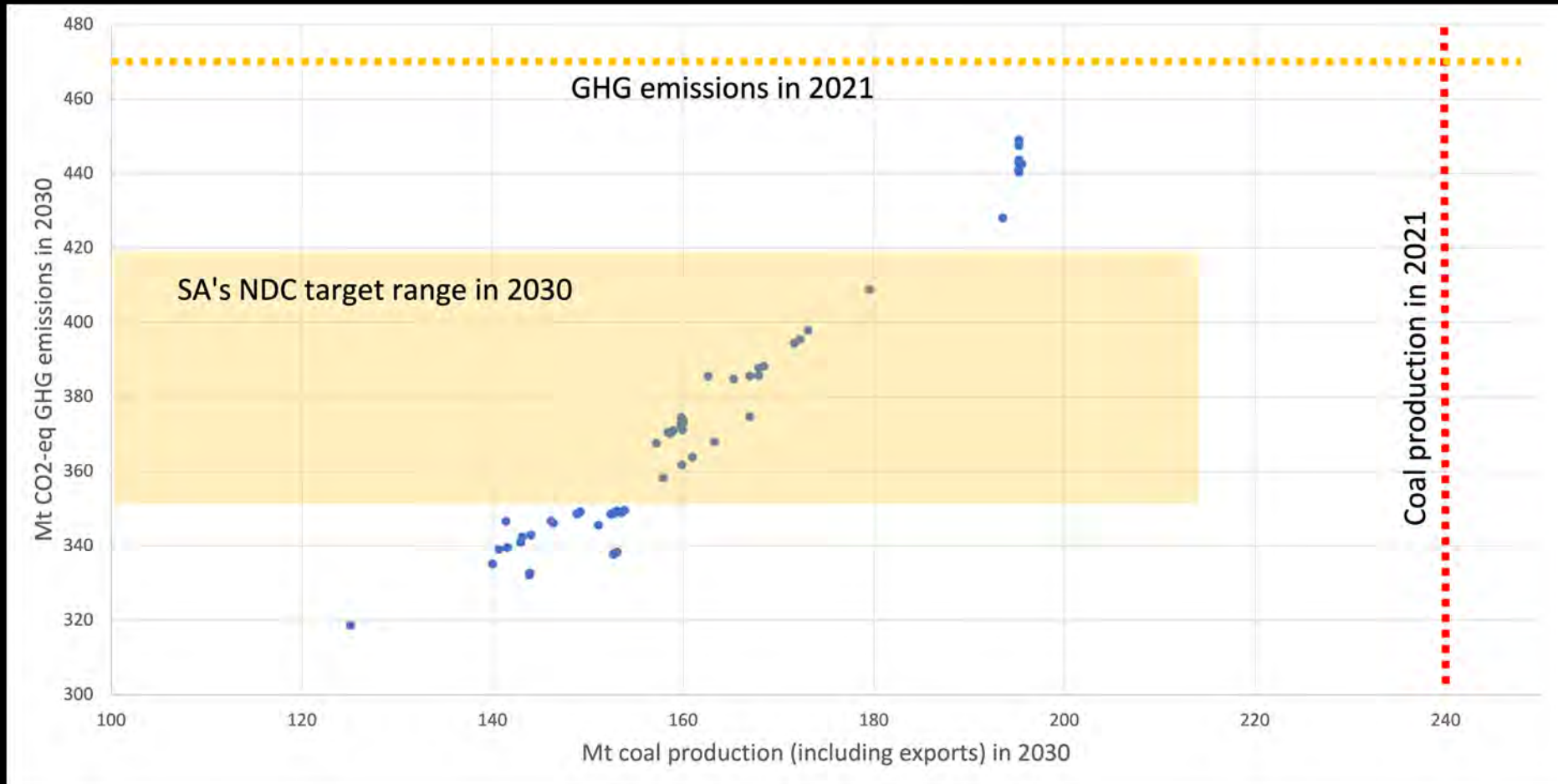


Source: Enerdata, 2020



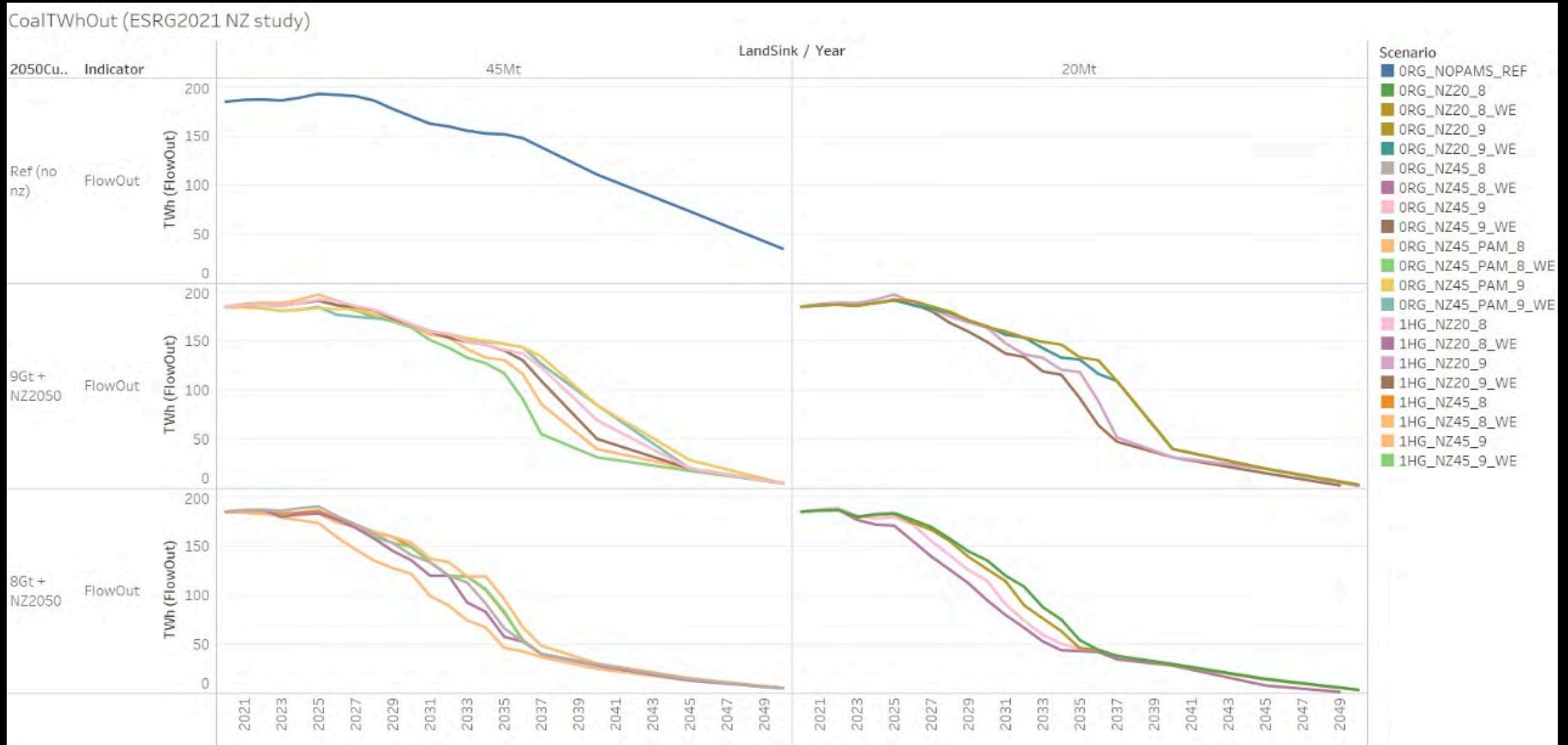
Due to rounding, some graphs may sum to slightly above or below 100%.

NDC targets imply 60-80Mt coal reduction by 2030



- Imperative to address already planned mine closures (~12, Cole et al)
- 10 000 job losses in mining for low NDC range
- Assumes no export changes

Coal power in net zero futures (ESRG 2021)



- Social exclusion
- Environmental damage
- Unremediated mines and future mines to close
- Dependent workforce and local economies
 - = pressing need for Just Transition planning and practice
- Lots of policy work – South Africa is leading the developing world in this space
- Now urgently need to move to implementation

Presidential Climate Commission: national Just Transition Framework



Principles of justice

- **Procedural:**
Workers, communities, and small businesses must be empowered and supported in the transition, to define their own development and livelihoods.
- **Distributive:**
The risks and opportunities must be distributed fairly
- **Restorative justice:**
Historical damages against individuals, communities, and the environment must be addressed, focus on rectifying the situations of harmed or disenfranchised communities; redress.

Policy interventions

- social protection
- human resource development and skills development
- industrial development, economic diversification and innovation

Mine rehab features heavily in all national plans



The Mpumalanga Green Cluster Agency works to advance a sustainable and inclusive green economy and create shared value in the Mpumalanga province.

ANALYSIS

South Africa's Coal Deal Is a New Model for Climate Progress

The agreement is the most impressive thing to come out of the COP26 climate summit.

agriculture, rural development,
land & environmental affairs
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



TRANSITION STRATEGY FOR
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE



BLUEPRINT FOR WORKERS 2022



TOWARDS A JUST ENERGY
TRANSITION FRAMEWORK
IN THE MINERALS AND ENERGY
SECTORS



Moving to implementation: repurposing coal mining land is a priority intervention in the JET IP

- To add of mine closure related aspects from the JET IP

Thank you

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