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DFFE sinks Karpowership deal

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) has rejected the application by Karpowership to operate gas-to-power projects in three South African ports.



Port of Saldanha. Source: Transnet Port Terminals

The Turkish company was named as the preferred bidder to supply 1,220MW of electricity in the Richard's Bay, Saldanha and Coega under South Africa's Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer Programme (RMIPPP) to meet the country's energy shortfall.

The projects drew fire from environmental groups over carbon emissions and threats to the livelihoods of nearby fishing communities. Losing bidder DNG Energy brought a court application against the Karpowership deal.



RMIPPPP floating power stations raise questions on carbon emissions 24 Mar 2021

The company said that it has met all necessary requirements and will appeal the Environment Department's decision. The department "allowed a misinformation campaign, funded by special interests, to derail the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy's strategic plan", the company said in a statement.

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