



THE MEDIUM (since 2010) FOR QUICK ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SACAA

## **INTRODUCTION**

This issue is to keep all members of SACAA abreast with what has been happening in our association and general topics.

Remember the updated SACAA website - www.coalash.co.za Please assist in keeping it current.

- Membership news
- Ash beneficiation the way to go
- South African Waste Stream unpacked
- Who's Who and What they do? We interview Deidre Herbst our new President

Kind regards

Mark Hunter SACAA GM

#### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

New President for SACAA – During the month of August whilst South Africa celebrated Woman's Day, the South African Coal Ash Association elected our first Lady President in the appointment at the AGM of Deidre Herbst from Eskom at the helm. The Deputy President is also a lady from Sasol, namely, Maite Ruth Terblanche. We wish you both all the success and support in your responsibilities of taking SACAA forward. Congratulations!

Honorary Member – Congratulations to Mark Hovy our previous President who was inducted as an Honorary Member of SACAA. Mark has been a long-standing member of SACAA serving diligently on council and the last 2 years as President, which he had to unfortunately relinquish due to his change in business venture. His wealth of knowledge on both concrete and the ash side will not be lost as he is going to continue as a SACAA Manco representative.

Membership Rates - The new membership rates were approved at the AGM and the invoices will be issued accordingly and distributed for members attention. If members could please process these to ensure that the administration runs efficiently. Thank you all for your assistance in this regard during the last year.

# **ASH BENEFICIATION - THE WAY TO GO**

Serving to increase awareness of the benefits from the effective utilisation of ash is not a simple, do from-your-desk job. It involves testing samples, field studies, allying like-minds, attending conferences, commercial liaison and probably assessing and influencing legislative aspects as well.

The challenge of ash beneficiation, that the Phakisa Initiative brings to SACAA who has been mandated to drive the various ash related streams, requires new innovative thinking and skills to reach the objectives. It would be very naive to believe that SACAA and its members can do this on our own, so we must identify and harness every resource to make it happen.

Firstly, after 30+ years of doing ash in South Africa, with well researched academic and industrial studies, local and international conferences, papers, tutorials, practical experiences and applications, I believe that there is enough evidence to support the three pillars expected from the Phakisa Initiatives, namely, Job Creation, GDP Growth and reduction in the Environmental footprint.

To kick off the Phakisa ash waste initiatives, SACAA will be hosting several stream meetings, that will be open to any interested party, however, will send out invitations to known role players, where the detailed discussions, thinking and planning will be derived. Naturally, action plans, timeframes, resources, events, targets etc will be flowing out of these meetings. Some of the streams, will be brick and block, soil amelioration and sludge, mine backfilling and embankments, road infrastructure and potential export markets.

The streams will be led by appointed Chairpersons, representatives and subject matter experts, who will have to do deep dives to explore how much is achievable with the previous and current research results, papers, practical examples, that they will use to come up with action plans and progress reports. DEA will have oversight of each stream, via the SACAA president who will prepare a monthly report for distribution to DEA, who in turn will report to the South African President.

Members are hereby requested to really consider participating in one of the streams, as the expertise lies in the members and their companies for whom they work. Letters of appointments will be given so that each employer will be aware of the accountability and time allocated to the project will entail. Without your support, Ash Beneficiation will be very difficult to achieve.

#### REMINDER OF THE OBJECTIVES:

- √ 126 000 jobs in five years
- ✓ Grow GDP (still to be defined)
- ✓ Reduction of ash waste (moving the amount sold to 19% from the current 7 8%)

For the above to be measured, SACAA will be required to articulate the numbers accurately, so assistance in this regard will be welcome. If you have any ideas, please let the GM know.

Without creating new products, uses, applications particularly those that use vast quantities of ash, the Phakisa Initiative project is going to struggle. Innovation and bold calculated risk taking are going to be required in driving the various streams, as the current applications are limited in growth to achieve the vast quantities required.

# Exciting times ahead for all involved for a better South Africa

SACAA may introduce a different communication method to share the Phakisa Initiative aspects and information to our members other than the normal AshFlashes, as our target audience will be very different. Watch this space.

### **SOUTH AFRICAN WASTE STREAM UNPACKED**

#### SOUTH AFRICA - STATE OF WASTE REPORT

SACAA participated in the compilation information and stakeholder engagements that were used and published in the State of Waste Report (SoWR), as well as part of the Phakisa Initiative workshops. From the statistics of the report, the editor will use this data to share the magnitude and insights that led to Ash being identified as one of the Phakisa Waste streams that require drastic attention.

POPULATION: The link between population size and growth, and the generation of waste is well understood. With the population growth, there is an increase in the consumption of natural resources and consequently the quantity of waste generated. During the years 2013 to 2017 the estimated population of South Africa increased from 53 million to 56.5 million. At the same time the population density mostly, effected Gauteng (3.1%) Western Cape (2.2%) and Mpumalanga (2%).

*ECONOMY*: Another key driver of waste generation is the growth of the economy, either directly through manufacturing and industry, or related incomes. During the same period of 2013 to 2017 the GDP increased from R3.54 trillion to R4.65 trillion. With Gauteng contributing 35%. Western Cape 14% and the rest all below 8% each.

OTHER FACTORS: that were looked at was the Income level and standard of living, Urbanisation that would impact on the domestic solid waste streams, so I have not expanded on them. Globalisation looked at the recycling markets and force effecting waste management and these included Recovered Plastic, Recovered Paper, Scrap Metal and Electronic Waste (e-waste).

WASTE TYPES: the report focuses on General Waste and Hazardous Waste classifications as well as the generators of the waste streams. Using the 2016 CSIR baseline for waste the following was numbers were reported.

Bulk Organic waste (39.7) Ash (36.4) Non-Recycling Waste (8.5) Slag (5.9) Construction and Demolition (5.2) Brine (4.6) Metals (3.3) Municipal Organic Waste (3.2) Paper (1.8) Hazardous (1.4) Plastic (1.4) Glass (1.0) Sludge (0.7) Mineral Waste (0.4) e-Waste (0.3) Tyres (0.2)

From the above where Ash came out as the second largest waste stream, it is essential to pull out all the stops to reduce the amount going to landfill, by means of beneficiation and re-use.

Key observations from SoWR in terms of South African behaviour are:

- South African rate of depletion of waste sites
- Throwaway society
- Inability to make informed decisions
- Waste ending on landfill 75% from the baseline of 90%
- Waste recycling in South Africa is not yet mature
- Illegal dumping is on the increase
- Joblessness and unemployment rates increasing
- Contributions of disadvantaged (waste pickers)
- Contributions to our NDP and Phakisa.

For the full report: HTTP: sawic.environment.gov.za

# **NEWS - VIEWS - INTERVIEWS**

#### **❖** Introduction to Deidre Herbst – SACAA President

Thank you to the Counsel and SACAA members for having the confidence in me to represent SACAA as your President. Mark Hunter our GM has requested that I share a bit about myself.

I am currently the Eskom Environmental Manager, a responsibility and challenge I feel privileged to have.

On the personal side, I have been married to Michael for 28 years and we have two grown up sons Miles and Luke. In our spare time we love to make special memories with our extended families and friends and we participate in various sporting activities. Probably the most significant of these is the full Ironman which Michael has completed 13 times. After being a supporter for 10 years I decided to join him and have completed 2. Going forward I am hoping to do less strenuous activities in nature and have taken up trail running as a new hobby.

On the professional side I have been with Eskom since I left school, I started out as a horticulturist responsible for landscaping, rehabilitation and waste management at Eskom sites. As the opportunities grew in the environmental field, which I feel very passionate about, I obtained my BSC in environmental management and more recently my master's in environmental law.

In my experience there are a few key approaches and tools which contribute to our successes; first developing a vision which is clear and is supported by concise goals. Ash utilisation is a significant opportunity for various socio-economic benefits including reducing the environmental footprint and creating meaningful employment and enterprise development. Going forward it is important that we engage all stakeholders, ensure that SACAA is an inclusive association which aligns itself to the intent of the National Development Plan.

I look forward to engaging with all SACAA members to learn from you and to continue to grow the organisation with yourselves and our GM Mark Hunter. Importantly the work we will be facilitating on behalf of the DEA is an exciting new journey which I hope to take all of you on.

Deidre Herbst 0836601147

### SACAA - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FEEDBACK

The attendance at the SACAA AGM was excellent where 30 members attended. Some good discussion emanated from the meeting, that will be followed through to achieve a better association for all. The Manco elected at the meeting for 2018/19 are as follows:

Deidre Herbst: President

Maite Ruth Terblanche: Deputy President

Mark Hunter: GM

Mark Hovy

Ntendeni Maduna

Albert Da Serra and

Dirk Odendaal.

ALL FOR NOW

Regards SACAA GM