

SEG 2024 Conference: Sustainable Mineral Exploration and Development

Navigating Namibia's Energy Crossroads: Balancing Renewable Ambitions and Fossil Fuel Opportunities

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Namibia finds itself at a crucial crossroads, balancing aspirations for renewable energy supremacy with the newfound promise of oil and gas reserves. This paper explores the nation's trajectory, emphasizing its fervent pursuit of becoming a renewable energy hub, notably through initiatives like green hydrogen. Concurrently, it delves into the seismic shift caused by the revelation of substantial oil and gas discoveries by prominent energy corporations.

The discourse unfolds around the challenging dilemma confronting Namibia: whether to prioritize sustainable energy goals or embrace economic opportunities presented by fossil fuels. Highlighting the country's proactive measures in renewable energy, such as the Hyphen and DAURES Green Hydrogen village, it underscores the employment opportunities and capacity-building initiatives already underway.

To navigate this multifaceted landscape, Namibia requires a delicate balancing act. Strategies encompass synergistic utilization of both renewable and fossil fuel resources while ensuring sustainable growth and environmental stewardship. The paper advocates for meticulous governance, collaboration between sectors, and robust policies to harness the potential of both industries without compromising long-term sustainability.

The analysis acknowledges the critical role of political dynamics in shaping Namibia's energy future, particularly as a transition in leadership looms. The conclusion underscores the pivotal importance of balancing these industries to secure Namibia's economic, environmental, and energy independence trajectories.