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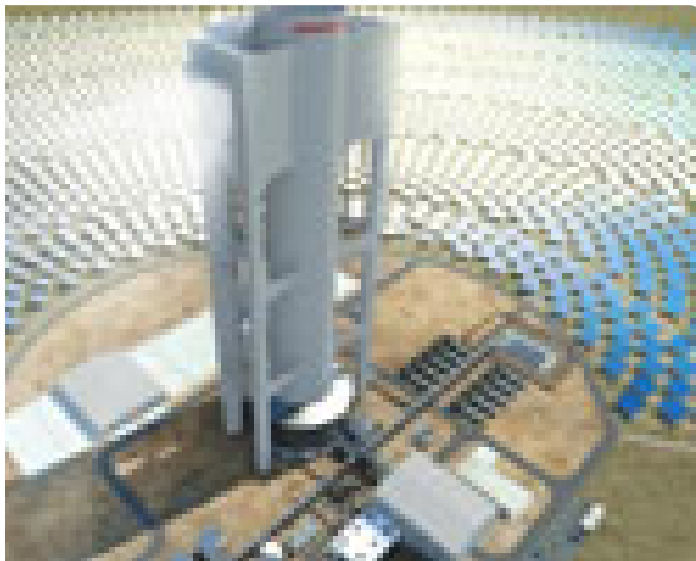
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ESI to provide Khi Solar One project with R546m

14 Nov 2012



ESI-Africa, the European Investment Bank (EIB), Europe's long-institution, has agreed to provide about R546m for the Khi Solar One. This is the first large concentrated solar power project in sub-Saharan Africa and one of the first private sector renewable energy projects in the region. The Khi Solar One project consists of a 200m high tower and 500 heliostat moving mirrors to reflect light onto the tower.



The first plant is located on a 600 hectare site close to SA Northern Cape's town of Upington. It will use concentrated solar technology to focus solar radiation by focusing it onto a small area to produce heat. The heat drives a turbine and produces electricity. Advanced dry cooling technology will reduce water consumption by two thirds.

The plant will sell its electricity to Eskom for 20 years, as agreed under a purchase agreement (PPA). An average of 600 construction jobs will be created during the construction period and there will be about 35 fulltime jobs for operations employees. The plant will be able to store thermal energy for 10 hours. This will prevent about 183,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions a year, equivalent to 100,000 cars.

[article](http://www.esi-africa.com) on www.esi-africa.com.







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