

Decarbonising the Economy: A Viable Strategy to Combat Global Climate Change and Foster Environmental Sustainability

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ABSTRACT On the African continent, South Africa is the leading emitter of carbon dioxide causing global warming, climate change and environmental degradation. The government has put in place numerous strategic and legal interventions to curb the menace and at the same time establish various institutions to implement policies and laws on carbon dioxide emissions reduction. Despite this, climate change culprits have continued to engage in activities that are dangerous to the environment. Consequent to this, this paper argues that the best way to curb carbon emissions causing global climate change is to decarbonise the economy by encouraging industries and other sectors of the economy to take appropriate steps to transit towards the use of sustainable alternative energy to power their equipment and other production activities. The paper highlights the significance of zero tolerance for carbon emission and argues for sustainable alternatives. The paper points out that, by decarbonising the economy, this will not necessarily retard economic growth but rather foster sustainable economic growth.