Environment & Society Portal

Multimedia Library Collection: Periodicals

"Power Poverty: Energy Injustice in South Africa"

Carruthers, Jane



Enkanini, South Africa.

© mrnovel80 on Adobe Stock. Used by permission.

The copyright holder reserves, or holds for their own use, all the rights provided by copyright law, such as distribution, performance, and creation of derivative works. https://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/?language=en .

Carruthers, Jane. "Power Poverty: Energy Injustice in South Africa." *Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review*, no. 2 (December 2022).

Periodicals Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Power Poverty: Energy Injustice in South Africa"
Source URL: http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/9631
Print date: 17 November 2026 13:28:48

> Reflecting on his arrival in Johannesburg from the Eastern Cape in 1941, Nelson Mandela recalled, "We saw before us, glinting in the distance, a maze of lights that seemed to stretch in all directions. Electricity, to me, had always been a novelty, and a luxury, and here was a vast landscape of electricity, a city of light." His thrill at seeing the brightly lit city reveals a stark contrast between the "landscape of electricity" and the lived reality of Black South Africans then subjected to apartheid. (From the article)

This article was originally published in *Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review* . The journal is an online publication featuring peer-reviewed articles, creative nonfiction, and artistic contributions that showcase the work of the Rachel Carson Center and its community across the world.

2022 Jane Carruthers



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License .
This license refers only to the text and does not include any image rights.
Please see captions in the PDF for individual licenses.

Download:
PDF:
https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/carruthers_power-poverty_springs_2022_2.pdf

Related links:

- *Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review*
  https://springs-rcc.org

Websites linked in this text:

- https://springs-rcc.org/

Websites linked in image captions:

- https://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/?language=en

Periodicals Collection, Multimedia Library, Environment & Society Portal
"Power Poverty: Energy Injustice in South Africa"
Source URL: http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/9631
Print date: 17 November 2026 13:28:48