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Processing low-grade coal to produce high-grade products

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Abstract

South Africa's best-quality coal, located in the central Highveld basin, is becoming depleted and alternative sources of coal, such as the Waterberg coalfield, will have to be developed to supply the country with coal in the future. The quality of the coal being mined in the central basin is gradually becoming poorer. This necessitates that more of the coal be processed to improve the quality to meet customer requirements. The challenge to the coal processing industry is to process low-yielding coals to produce good quality products and at the same time ensure that coal mining remains economically viable. This requires that more cost-effective coal processing technologies be investigated and implemented.