



# ENERGY AND NET ZERO STRATEGY OFFERING

## THE ENERGY TRANSITION IS WELL UNDERWAY

The global energy sector is undergoing a period of disruptive change due to the transition to cleaner, more decentralised and digitalised forms of energy generation and use. In South Africa, this disruption is particularly acute due to energy insecurity and the carbon intensity of the current energy supply. Private sector actors need to develop coherent energy and net zero responses to access the significant new opportunities and avoid costly mistakes.

## DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC RESPONSE

The development of a robust energy and decarbonisation strategy includes these steps:

1. Identify strategic market drivers in the uncertain and evolving energy market and global net zero landscape.
2. Understand the nature and impact of current and future energy use and its implications for the business model.
3. Develop technical, financial, and business model strategies to respond successfully.
4. Adopt a coherent strategic framework that is risk-responsive, robust across multiple futures, and exploits emerging sustainable finance opportunities.
5. Define a flexible implementation plan that navigates the evolving energy and science-based climate reporting, regulatory and market structures.

## WHAT MERIDIAN CAN OFFER

Meridian specialises in developing customised energy and net zero strategies for commercial, industrial and infrastructure companies. As a small, innovative, multi-disciplinary, and closely connected team, we have deep capabilities in complex analytical and strategic projects. We bring together experience in quantitative systems analytics and advanced technical skills in the policy, regulation, markets, financing, and reporting of net zero and energy issues to deliver on this service offering. Our expertise includes:

Comprehensive modelling capabilities to interrogate energy, emissions and financial implications of different strategies:

- For individual facilities or aggregate company level – we use advanced energy system optimisation software to simulate the firm's demand and supply options under multiple scenarios.
- Modelling can integrate all energy carriers (electricity, process heat, transport, etc.) revealing opportunities for cost and emissions savings
- Optimal planning strategies are developed for new energy supply and storage technology investments over a range of planning horizons, enabling the achievement of security of supply, decarbonisation and cost effectiveness objectives.
- Firm level planning is integrated with our national power system modelling to inform the optimal choice of power source (e.g. on-site generation or grid power)
- Identification of new commercial and business model opportunities
- Assessment of strategic, business model, and financial / balance sheet implications of different energy / net zero scenarios
- Proven ability to develop innovative transition finance models and approaches
- Energy and carbon regulation and markets support (tariffs, PPA procurement, own-build, RECs, carbon offsets, CBAMs, carbon tax, GH2)
- Navigation of, and modelling support for the science-based reporting landscape, standards, protocols.