

Symposium shows word still out on potential impacts of unconventional gas

The Groundwater Division of the Geological Society of South Africa (GWD) and the Mine Water Division of the Water Institute of Southern Africa were the combined hosts of the Unconventional Gas symposium held in Pretoria in August. With the theme 'Just the facts' the

symposium provided a thought-provoking forum on the potential advantages and disadvantages of using unconventional gas in southern Africa. The symposium unpacked the challenges associated with operation and closure, with various lessons being presented from current projects here and

internationally. The symposium provided factual presentations from the viewpoints of the regulatory bodies, industrial organisations, non-governmental organisations, and academic researchers to enable delegates to become more familiar with the topic and able to make better-informed decisions.



Dr Kevin Pietersen of SLR Consulting with Christine Colvin of WWF South Africa.



Andrew Stone, Executive Director of the American Groundwater Trust provided an interesting update on the current state of shale-gas development in the USA.



Among the speakers at the conference were Anet Muir (Department of Water and Sanitation), David Love (Golder Associates Africa), Dr Ricky Murray (Groundwater Africa), Fanie de Lange (University of the Free State), Andrew Stone (American Groundwater Trust), Peter Rosewarne (SRK Consulting), and Dr Kevin Pietersen (SLR Consulting).

