

UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO

SCHOOL OF LAW

**LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH
AFRICA`S GOVERNANCE OF WATER POLLUTION WITH
REFERENCE TO GREATER LETABA MUNICIPALITY**

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This dissertation is submitted in partial compliance with the requirements prescribed
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II

DECLARATION

I Pretty Ntsako Mnisi declare that the dissertation submitted to the University of Limpopo for the Masters degree of Philosophy in Environmental Law has not been previously submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; and that it is my own work. All the sources that I have used or quoted have been duly acknowledged by means of complete reference.

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the effectiveness of a particular segment of the legal framework regarding water pollution control in South Africa. A review is conducted of relevant environmental legislation (including the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, the National Water Act 36 of 1998) and the Water Services Act and related literature in order to portray the history, scope and content of the water law framework that applies to local authorities in the specific. In order to situate the phenomenon of water pollution in the context of the theoretical review, some observations are included concerning international and domestic developments and phenomena. The theoretical base of this study is furthermore substantiated and supported by the inclusion of a basic case study that portrays the actual challenges facing some local authorities in South Africa in the management and governance of water resources and the combating of water pollution. This study concludes with a set of recommendations towards improved water governance and the combating of water pollution in the local government sphere based on the finding that deficient compliance and enforcement measures remain a real challenge in municipalities' effective implementation of South Africa's water law.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DWEA	Department Water and Environmental Affairs
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GLM	Greater Letaba Municipality
IRWM	Integrated Water Resource Management
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998
NWA	National Water Act 36 of 1998
NWRS	National Water Resource Strategy
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
UK	United Kingdom
UCT	University of Cape Town

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