

Kim Brent of EOH CES attended a 3 day short course covering Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), The National Water Act (NWA) and Water Use Authorisations (WUAs), focusing on Licencing requirements and Integrated Water and Waste Management Plans (IWWMPs). Staff of EOH CES attend courses such as this to ensure that we remain up to date on the many and varied aspects of environmental management. The course included discussions and workshops covering the following topics, which reveal the breadth of knowledge and expertise required of an environmental practitioner to deal with only one aspect of the environment - water:

- Environmental Governance and Authorisations:
  - The need for water governance;
  - Sustainable IEM and tools for environmental governance;
  - Overview of environmental law concepts and principles;
  - Liabilities, duties and responsibilities for pollution prevention and remediation.
- IWRM, the NWA and the its relationship with Water Use Authorisations (WUAs):
  - IWRM, the National Water Act and National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS), and Resource Directed Measures (RDM);
  - Legal requirements for WUAs;
- Water Use Licence Applications (WULAs):
  - DWS regulations, Guidelines, IWWMPs; Specialist reports and pitfalls.
- Procedural and substantive aspects of WULAs and IWRM
  - Development of IWWMPs: Public participation, risk assessments and management and IWWMP action plans; and
  - Water monitoring programmes.

This short course was very useful, and will assist EOH CES staff to more effectively deal with Water Use Authorisations for various forms of developments. It provided a good overview of these topics and a number of case studies and practical tests ensured course delegates were able to apply their minds to the cases at hand.