

Alecia Pienaar

Counsel



Alecia Pienaar is Counsel in our Corporate & Commercial practice, advising on specialised environmental law matters in various corporate and industrial sectors.

About Alecia

Alecia joined CDH in 2016 as Candidate Attorney and was appointed as Associate in 2018. She was promoted to Senior Associate in 2021. In 2022, Alecia joined the Private Markets team at Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa, and rejoined CDH in 2023 as Counsel.

Credentials

Education

- LLB, North West University, Potchefstroom
- LLM, University of Cape Town
- Certificate of Competence in Climate Change & Energy Law, University of Witwatersrand
- Certificate of Completion in Finance, Contracts & Risk Mitigation for Private Power Investment in Africa, University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business

Experience

- Conducting environmental, regulatory and health and safety due diligence investigations in respect of entities operating or providing services in various C&I sectors.
- Advising IPPs on bid readiness and participating in bid preparation for renewable and non-renewable projects in the REIPPPP and RMIPPPP.
- Preparing REIPPPP and RMIPPPP bid requirement environmental legal opinions for solar, wind and gas facilities.
- Preparing legal opinions and advising clients on all aspects of environmental law, including regulation of air quality, water, biodiversity, waste management, climate change, and contaminated land.

Contact Alecia

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[Alecia on LinkedIn](#)

Expertise

[Corporate & Commercial Law](#)

[Environmental Law](#)

[Agriculture, Aquaculture & Fishing](#)

[Mining & Minerals](#)

Location

Cape Town

Language

Afrikaans

English

- Reviewing and assisting clients with environmental and other regulatory permits applications.
- Assisting clients with administrative appeal and review applications.
- Offering advice to clients on specialized environmental areas, including environmental attributes, biodiversity offsets, bioprospecting, greenhouse gas emission reporting and financial provisioning.

News

[Significant changes proposed to waste exclusion legal regime](#)

The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (Minister) recently published draft regulations (Draft Regulations) that propose to amend the Regulations regarding the Exclusion of a Waste Stream or a Portion of a Waste Stream from the Definition of Waste, 2018 (Exclusion Regulations), as published under the National Environmental Management: Waste Act: 59 of 2008 (NEMWA).

[Opportunity to connect: Section 34 determination and draft regulations pave the way for private sector involvement in new electricity transmission infrastructure](#)

The lack of adequate grid capacity is a critical risk that continues to significantly stall progress in the implementation of South Africa's energy transition, especially in respect of the uptake of renewable energy. The market first came to understand the true extent of grid capacity constraints at the end of 2022, when only 1,000 MW out of a possible 5,2 GW was awarded under Bid Window 6 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme(REIPPPP).

[Newly released 2022 Grid Emission Factors Report: A guide to accurate emission reporting for electricity usage](#)

In the face of an increasingly environmentally-conscious landscape, South African businesses have been under pressure to accurately report on their carbon footprint, particularly in relation to Scope 2 emissions.

[Carbon Tax Phase Two: Impact on the agricultural sector](#)

On 13 November 2024, National Treasury released the Discussion Paper on Phase Two of the South African Carbon Tax (Discussion Paper). In a media statement published alongside the Discussion Paper, National Treasury invited stakeholders to submit their written comments and proposals on the paper by 13 December 2024. This alert unpacks the current status of the carbon tax and its anticipated impact on the agricultural sector in the near future.

[Revisiting an old gem in the circularity era: Reprocessing of tailings under the Ataqwa judgment](#)

According to PwC's SA Mine 2024 report (Report), which was released on 1 October 2024, "The South African mining sector has experienced a hive of merger and acquisition (M&A) activity in the past year." The Report notes a total deal value of \$10 billion across 32 deals in the 12-month period ending 30 June 2024.

Videos

[Companies to take heed of mounting climate change litigation risks, advises Alecia Pienaar, Counsel in our Environmental Law practice during a eNCA interview.](#)

[All news by Alecia Pienaar →](#)