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Mr Pillay holds a Bachelor of Technology degree in Management, a National Diploma in Analytical Chemistry, and a National Diploma in Water Care, all from the Durban University of Technology. He has approximately 30 years of working experience in the academic, public and private sectors.

He has worked in a diverse range of environments ranging from water & waste water treatment, petroleum sector, mining sector, cement manufacturing and in all three tiers of Government.

He has knowledge and experience in Environmental Impact Assessments, Guideline development, Policy development, compliance monitoring and enforcement. Mr Pillay served in many capacities within Government. Currently he is the Director responsible for Waste Policy and Information Management. He is leading on the development of waste legislation and also responsible for the South African Waste Information System.