



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE GREEN CONNECTION



To: The Chairperson
Portfolio Committee on Water and Sanitation
Parliament of the Republic of South Africa

Date: 30 July 2026

**RE: ENDORSEMENT OF THE JOINT SUBMISSION BY THE BIODIVERSITY LAW CENTRE AND
NATURAL JUSTICE ON THE NATIONAL WATER ACT AMENDMENT BILL [B1-2026]**

The Green Connection is a South African non-profit organisation that promotes environmental justice and the sustainable use of natural resources. We work alongside small-scale fishing, coastal, and other communities to ensure that environmental governance protects both people and nature, with a particular focus on the rights and livelihoods of communities who depend on healthy ecosystems. Our work includes advocacy, public participation, environmental governance, and ensuring that natural resources are managed in a manner that is equitable, sustainable and consistent with the Constitution.

Water is fundamental to the health of South Africa's ecosystems and communities. The National Water Act Amendment Bill has significant implications for the protection and management of our country's water resources, including freshwater ecosystems that support biodiversity, climate resilience, livelihoods and the constitutional rights of present and future generations.

Having considered the joint submission prepared by the Biodiversity Law Centre and Natural Justice on the National Water Act Amendment Bill [B1-2026], the Green Connection confirms that it supports and endorses that submission in its entirety.

We believe that the recommendations contained in the submission will strengthen the Bill by improving the protection of water resources and water source areas, enhancing ecological sustainability, promoting transparent and accountable decision-making, and ensuring that the legislation better gives effect to the constitutional rights to an environment that is not harmful to health or wellbeing and to sufficient water.

Accordingly, we respectfully request the Portfolio Committee to give due consideration to the recommendations contained in the Biodiversity Law Centre and Natural Justice submission during its deliberations on the Bill.

Yours faithfully,

Per

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For and on behalf of The Green Connection