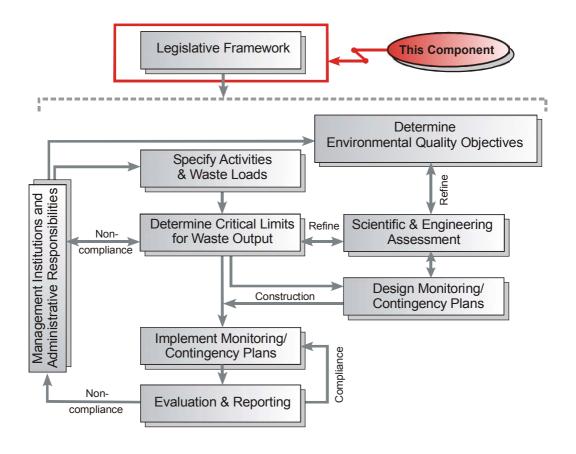
SECTION 2: LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this component is to identify both national and international legislative obligations pertaining to the disposal of wastewater to the marine environment.

The legislative framework pertaining to an operational policy for the disposal of land-derived wastewater in coastal areas of South Africa is discussed in detail in Appendix B (in the *Operational Policy for disposal of land-derived water containing waste to the marine environment of South Africa: Appendices* (RSA DWAF Water Quality Management Sub-Series No. 13.4).

Legislative requirements for the disposal of land-derived wastewater to the marine environment are consolidated into the *Basic Principles and Ground Rules* provided in the *Operational Policy for disposal of land-derived water containing waste to the marine environment of South Africa* (RSA DWAF Water Quality Management Sub-Series No. 13.2).

In summary, five Basic Principles apply, namely:

- Pollution prevention, Waste Minimisation & Precautionary Approach
- Receiving Water Quality Objectives Approach
- Integrated Assessment Approach
- Polluter Pays Principle
- Participatory Approach

In turn, the *Ground Rules*, providing more specific criteria or rules that will be applied when considering licence applications. For this operational policy, the Ground Rules are addressed under specific themes considered to be of particular importance in the disposal of land-derived wastewater to the marine environment (in alignment with the key components of the management framework), namely:

- Legislative Framework
- Management Institutions and Administrative Responsibilities
- Environmental Quality Objectives
- Activities and Associated Waste Loads
- Scientific and Engineering Assessment
- Monitoring and Contingency Plans.