

Erling Fischer

I am a qualified environmental scientist with a Master's degree in Geohydrology and professional experience in water resource management within the mining sector. At Sibanye-Stillwater, I have held roles within the Environmental – Water Engineering portfolio, where I led strategic Water Conservation and Demand Management (WCWDM) initiatives across the South African gold operations. My responsibilities have included expanding groundwater monitoring networks, managing drilling and geophysical investigations, developing both operational and statutory water balances, and driving water independence initiatives.

In support of environmental compliance, mine closure planning, and sustainability reporting, I align my work with national legislation and global frameworks such as the ICMM and the Responsible Gold Mining Principles. My research into the environmental impacts of co-disposal into mining voids has contributed to a deeper understanding of long-term water quality risks in post-mining landscapes.

With a focus on sustainable ground stability solutions—particularly in sinkhole-prone dolomitic areas—I aim to integrate geohydrological risk management into closure and rehabilitation planning. Through this work, I hope to contribute meaningfully to the responsible transition and final phase of gold mining on the Far West Rand.