

Case Study - Summary 120 words

This case study examines the role of the National Taxpayers Union (NTU) in South Africa and the legal precedents that have shaped the country's municipal and energy crises. The pivotal 2000 Supreme Court of Appeal judgment in *Kempton Park/Tembisa v Kelder* is highlighted as a critical turning point. This ruling, combined with the 1998 Walker case, limited municipalities' ability to enforce payment for services, fostering a widespread "culture of non-payment." The resulting financial collapse of municipalities crippled their ability to pay the national utility, Eskom. This non-payment is presented as a primary driver of Eskom's decline and the subsequent, persistent national energy crisis, illustrating how legal principles, when not fully appreciated for their practical consequences, can lead to systemic decay.