



MAHLAKO

BALANCING GROWTH

Role specification

We are looking for a candidate to join as a Project Lawyer in the rapidly growing Infrastructure Investment, Asset Management and Advisory team. This position will be based in Johannesburg, but might involve some short term travel from time to time, and fills an integral role that involves working closely with the rest of the investment, asset management and advisory team to execute a wide variety of challenging and exciting engagements related to the planning, development, delivery and operations of major economic and social infrastructure projects.

We are looking for a team member who:

- Is seeking a dynamic role requiring a mix of technical and soft skills;
- Is an analytical and logical thinker with a strong attention to detail;
- Is a strong team player with the ability to adapt to changing requirements or deadlines in support of our client's goals;
- Is highly motivated and energized by participating in projects involving development of critical national infrastructure assets that have a tangible and lasting impact on society;

Key responsibilities will include:

- Oversee legal aspects of project development
- Manage the PPP procurement legal stream
- General Contract Management.
- Ensuring overall project legal compliance during the various project phases from bidding / tendering, throughout the financial close process and up to commercial operation of the various renewable energy and resource efficiency initiatives and similar programmes and private off-take PPAs.
- Provide high quality legal advice to the various project teams to ensure effective corporate governance, risk planning and compliance with statutory responsibilities, and to ensure that commercial obligations, financial and qualitative targets are properly addressed.
- Being the centre point interfacing between all stakeholders providing input into the various project agreements in order to ensure that project agreements are comprehensive, complete and risks are addressed appropriately.
- Heading up the legal bidding and financial closing teams.
- Engage and manage external legal counsel.
- Liaise and lead in negotiations with project stakeholders and their legal advisers in respect of the various project agreements.
- Liaise and lead in negotiations with third parties and their legal advisers on matters connected with the various projects.
- Lead on any contractual disputes or adjudication claims, dealing directly with senior legal representatives of the counter-party organisations.



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- Such other duties that may be required from time to time within the general scope of the position. The role description should develop along with the changing demands of the project objectives and priorities.
- Heading up the development of the scope of work and terms of reference for outstanding preparation and project management work required to transit projects to financial close;
- Advising on the appointment of external legal counsel to undertake outstanding preparation work required to transit projects to financial close;

To qualify for the role, you must have:

- LLB with advanced project finance knowledge.
- Minimum 5 years (post admission) strong and proven legal-commercial experience in the project finance environment, with experience in bidding and financial closing of renewable and power infrastructure, transport (major rail and road projects), water and social infrastructure projects.
- Strong experience in advising and running PPP projects
- Experience and/or knowledge of government policy and policy-making as it relates to infrastructure including Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)
- Experience with various offtake agreements (traditional power purchase agreement, synthetic power purchase agreements, etc.), implementation agreements, direct agreements and all other typical project finance agreements.
- Previous experience with an IPP in solar PV and other renewable energy projects.
- Strong commercial knowledge on energy matters.
- Advanced knowledge of EPC and O&M agreements.
- Experience in land use agreements and environmental permitting requirements.
- Relevant experience in project finance/development finance
- Has strong knowledge of the South African Energy and Environmental regulatory environment
- Strong written and verbal communication/presentation skills
- Team oriented, collaborative, respectful, positive, flexible style and a strong work ethic
- Strong leadership skills, particularly communication, adaptability, decisiveness and positivity

The successful candidate for this position will enjoy working with a market leading team in the Infrastructure financing and advisory industry, and work on the redevelopment of South Africa's core infrastructure.