



Rhys Davies

Partner

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Rhys Davies provides advice and assistance in the identification and management of commercial, regulatory and stakeholder issues associated with obtaining and managing land access and statutory approvals for energy, renewables, resources, infrastructure and property development.

Rhys' expertise in native title matters, for which he has been recognised by *Chambers and Partners* as an 'associate to watch' in 2014-2015 and a 'Star Associate' in 2016, is a key component of his practice. Rhys couples this with extensive experience advising in relation to tenure and statutory approvals requirements across Australia, including Crown land, environmental impact assessment, emissions licensing, contaminated land, planning and water, to bring an integrated and holistic approach to the management of land access and approvals issues.

"Noted for developing great relationships on every side and providing very considered opinions and advice based on good background knowledge." *Chambers Asia-Pacific* 2015

EXPERIENCE

- Advising the participants in the Australian Premium Iron Joint Venture in relation to native title, land access and statutory approvals issues associated with the development of the West Pilbara Iron Ore Project in the Pilbara region of Western Australia
- Advising Gold Road Resources Limited in relation to native title, land access and statutory approvals associated with the development of the Yamarna Gold Project in the Central Desert region of Western Australia
- Advising Sandfire Resources NL in relation to native title issues associated with the development of the DeGrussa Copper-Gold Mine in the Midwest region of Western Australia
- Advising the Destination Brisbane Consortium in relation to native title issues associated with the Queens Wharf Project in central Brisbane
- Advising a confidential client in relation to environmental management matters in the Northern Territory
- Advising a confidential client in relation to contaminated land management matters in Queensland

RELATED SERVICES

- Public and Administrative Law
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Infrastructure Finance
- Real Estate
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Environment, Health and Safety

RELATED SECTORS

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Life Sciences
- Industrials

- Advising juwi Renewable Energy Pty Ltd in relation to land access and approvals issues associated with the development of the DeGrussa Solar Power Project in Western Australia
- Advising Abengoa Solar Power Australia Pty Ltd in relation to the proposed development of the Perenjori Solar Plant Project in Western Australia
- Advising a statutory body in relation to the maintenance of environmental management systems to AS/NZS ISO 14001
- Advising a global car manufacturer in relation to the development of environmental training materials

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Western Australia
- Solicitor of the High Court of Australia

Memberships

- Australian Mining and Petroleum Lawyers' Association (AMPLA)
- Chamber of Minerals and Energy (WA)
- Law Society of Western Australia

INSIGHTS

Publications

Lessons in climate risk reporting on the path to mandatory disclosure: A marathon, not a sprint

11 December 2020

As countries increase the pace of mandatory climate risk disclosure measures aligned with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, the Task Force's most recent status report highlights the extent of the commitment necessary to embed climate risk and opportunity analysis into governance, strategy, risk analysis and performance management – and the need to start early.

Three ESG steps to keep your project bankable in 2021

17 September 2020

Version four of the Equator principles will take effect on 1 October 2020, and it introduces three new requirements to the international environmental and social baseline for project finance.

ESG in 2020: What African resources-developers should do to prepare

11 August 2020

Africa Connected

The risks inherent in sourcing and bringing to market a diverse range of mineral commodities has meant that the natural resources industry has always been particularly exposed to environmental, social and governance issues, particularly in Africa.

Changes to Equator Principles introduce new requirements in relation to human rights, climate change and Indigenous Peoples for project debt

22 November 2019

On 18 November 2019, the Equator Principles Association published version four of the Equator Principles (EP4), updating the international baseline for the identification, assessment and management of environmental and social risks in international project finance debt markets. The changes, which take effect on 1 July 2020.

Proposed changes to Equator Principles enhance ESG requirements for project debt

25 October 2019

The Equator Principles Association has published a consultation draft of version four of the Equator Principles (EPs), the international baseline for the identification, assessment and management of environmental and social risks in international project finance debt markets. The proposed changes to the EPs, if implemented, will require project sponsors and lenders alike to adapt their respective assessment, screening and due diligence processes to reflect the revised EPs, particularly as they relate to human rights impacts, climate change risks and effects on indigenous peoples.
