

Tessa Brewis

Director, Joint Sector Head



Tessa Brewis is a Director in our Banking, Finance & Projects practice and serves as Joint Sector Head for the Projects & Energy sector. With more than two decades of legal experience, Tessa advises on a wide range of local and cross-border projects and transactions.

Tessa has extensive experience in REIPPPP (since Round 1) and all other South African IPP programmes, project development, advising on project agreements, complex due diligences, local and cross border transactional advice, M&A, corporate finance, all facets of South African corporate and commercial law and has also advised sponsors on public-private partnerships. Her cross-sector knowledge and strategic insight have made her a trusted advisor to both local and international clients navigating dynamic regulatory and business landscapes.

About Tessa

Tessa began her legal career in 1999 as a Candidate Attorney and was admitted as an attorney, notary public, and conveyancer in 2001. She served as Programme Manager of the Non-Profit Law Programme at the Non-Profit Consortium from 2003 to 2006, demonstrating her commitment to public interest law and governance. She joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (then Cliffe Dekker) as an Associate in 2007, quickly rising through the ranks to become a Senior Associate in 2008 and Director in 2011. Her diverse international background, including legal studies in Belgium and Scotland, and professional experience in London, enriches her global perspective and ability to advise clients with cross-jurisdictional needs.

Credentials

Education

- B Comm LLB, University of Stellenbosch
- International Legal Studies Certificate, University of Antwerp (Belgium)
- LLM, Aberdeen University (Scotland)(International Commercial Law)
- Year of admission as an attorney, notary public and conveyancer: 2001
- Registered with the Legal Practice Council

Experience

Contact Tessa

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[Tessa on LinkedIn](#)

Expertise

[Banking, Finance & Projects](#)

[Projects & Energy](#)

[Private Equity](#)

[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)

[The Companies Act](#)

[Corporate Governance](#)

Location

[Cape Town](#)

Language

[Afrikaans](#)

[English](#)

- **AMEA Power**

Lead adviser to AMEA Power, the leading Dubai-based developer, owner and operator of renewable energy projects with a pipeline of over 6GW across 20 countries with the financial close of the 120MW Doornhoek Solar Project which was bid in BW6 of REIPPP, with a transaction value in excess of ZAR2 billion in 2024.

- **Enernet Global**

Lead advisor to Enernet Global on the 15MW (with possible expansion to 50MW) solar PV facility for Black Mountain Mining

- **Broadreach Energy**

Lead advisor to Broadreach Energy who designed the Energy System for the Newinbosch Housing estate in Stellenbosch, around a custom-built microgrid for the neighbourhood and energy sources include solar, grid supply, batteries and generators to ensure uninterrupted power.

- **Longyuan Renewables and Atlantic Energy Partners**

Lead advisor to Longyuan Renewables and Atlantic Energy Partners on the project development and bidding of the 240MW Bothasig Project in Round 7 of REIPPP.

- **G7 Renewable Energy**

Lead advisor to G7 Renewable Energy in respect of the disposal of a wind farm development.

- **Merchant Energy**

Part of the team advising Merchant Energy on acquiring and bringing to financial close five utility scale solar PV projects.

- **Standard Bank**

Part of the team advising Standard Bank on the financial close and debt funding of Cullinan Solar PV C&I Project

- **China Harbour Engineering Company Limited**

China Harbour Engineering Company Limited in respect of its proposed private participation in the Durban Container Terminal Pier 2 project, with Transnet as the co shareholder.

- **Arcelor Mittal**

Arcelor Mittal in respect of the development of a 200MW embedded generation Solar PV Project.

- **Scatec**

Scatec in respect of its bid submissions for 9 Solar PV projects in BW 5 of REIPPP.

- **Pele Green Energy**

Pele Green Energy in respect of its bid submissions for the Grootpoort and Sonvanger Projects in BW 5 of REIPPP.

- **Energy Exchange of Southern Africa**

The Energy Exchange of Southern Africa in respect of embedded generation private sector renewable power projects, wheeling and trading arrangements.

- **Atlantis Foundries**

Atlantis Foundries in respect of embedded generation private sector renewable power projects.

- **Shell Downstream South Africa (Pty) Ltd**

Shell Downstream South Africa (Pty) Ltd in respect of embedded generation private sector renewable power projects.

- **Frog Foot Proprietary Limited**

As part of the sponsor counsel team, Frog Foot Proprietary Limited in respect of embedded generation private sector renewable power projects.

- **Vutomi Energy (Pty) Ltd**

As part of a team, Vutomi Energy (Pty) Ltd in respect of embedded generation private sector renewable power projects.

- **Broadreach Energy**

Broadreach Energy in respect of utilities management services to body corporates and home owners' associations.

- **Broadreach Energy**

Broadreach Energy in respect of an energy and water efficiency and cost savings product offering.

- **Old Mutual**

Old Mutual in respect of the due diligence and bid to acquire equity in a wind, solar and battery hybrid project that was appointed as a preferred bidder in the Risk Mitigation IPP Procurement Programme.

- **Phakwe Power**

Phakwe Power in respect of the acquisition of the Richards Bay Gas Power 2 Project and advising Richards Bay Gas Power 2 Proprietary Limited in respect of its bid in the RMIPPP.

- **AIIM**

AIIM in respect of the due diligence of the Richards Bay Gas Power 2 Project.

- **Phakwe Power**

Phakwe Power in respect of the acquisition of 39% in the Witkop Solar Project in 2018.

- **Metier Investment**

Member of the team that advised Metier Investment and Advisory Services on acquisition of the Harbour House Group and lead the due diligence investigation process in 2015.

- **Médecins Sans Frontières**

Advisor to Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) on numerous matters including establishment of an entity in South Africa.

News

[Opportunity to connect: Section 34 determination and draft regulations pave the way for private sector involvement in new electricity transmission infrastructure](#)

The lack of adequate grid capacity is a critical risk that continues to significantly stall progress in the implementation of South Africa's energy transition, especially in respect of the uptake of renewable energy. The market first came to understand the true extent of grid capacity constraints at the end of 2022, when only 1,000 MW out of a possible 5,2 GW was awarded under Bid Window 6 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).

[Commencement of the Electricity Regulation Amendment Act 38 of 2024](#)

The Electricity Regulation Amendment Act 38 of 2024 (ERA Act) was signed into law by the President of South Africa on 16 August 2024. On 18 December 2024, a governmental proclamation notice (236 of 2024) was published in Government Gazette 51778 in terms of which it was detailed that, in accordance with section 33 of the ERA Act, 1 January 2025 will be the date on which the ERA Act shall come into operation (save for amendments to the definitions of "reticulation" and "distribution power systems" in section 1 of the ERA Act, which will be dealt with by the President in a further proclamation in the Government Gazette in due course).

[SA secures close to R20 billion loan from BRICS Bank: Opportunities for water infrastructure developers](#)

With load-shedding seemingly under control for the present, securing access to water and sanitation services for South Africans appears to be the next looming issue. Gauteng's bulk water supply crisis and fast approaching "Day Zero" have been attributed to high water withdrawals by municipalities, largely caused by leaks due to failing municipal infrastructure.

[Tessa Brewis discusses her career and favourite sector to work in](#)

Tessa Brewis, Director in the Corporate & Commercial practice was featured in the DealMakers Women 2024 Issue where she discusses her career and favourite sector to work in.

Engineering News & Mining's Women in Industry

Tessa Brewis, Director in the Energy & Power sector, Alecia Pienaar, Counsel in the Environmental Sector, and Zodwa Malinga, Associate in the Construction & Engineering sector recently appeared in "Engineering News & Mining's Women in Industry" feature.

Podcasts

The new normal for mergers and acquisitions

Tessa Brewis, Director in our Corporate & Commercial practice joined Cape Talk to discuss the new normal for mergers and acquisitions. She elaborates on how the pandemic has affected mergers and acquisitions deal flow and how she foresees it recovering.

Gender Parity in Private Equity

Directors in our Corporate and Commercial Practice, Nonhla Mchunu and Tessa Brewis, joined Cape Talk's Early Breakfast with Abongile Nzelenzele to discuss was "Gender Parity in Private Equity"

[All news by Tessa Brewis →](#)

Recognition

- The Legal 500 EMEA 2021 - 2025 recommended Tessa for projects & infrastructure.
- IFLR1000 2022 and 2024 recommended Tessa as a highly regarded practitioner for Project Development.