

Tessa Brewis

Director



Tessa Brewis is a Director in our Corporate & Commercial practice. Tessa has extensive experience in local and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, private equity, joint ventures and the formation, structuring and restructuring of business entities, commercial aspects of renewable energy projects, large due diligence investigations and she advised on all aspects of South African corporate and commercial law.

About Tessa

Tessa began her career as a Candidate Attorney in 1999 and was appointed as an Associate in 2002. She was the programme manager of the Non-Profit Law Programme at the Non-Profit Consortium from 2003 to 2006. Tessa joined Cliffe Dekker (now Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr) as an Associate in 2007, was promoted to Senior Associate in 2008 and became a Director in 2011. Tessa completed her LLB in Belgium and lived and worked in London prior to commencing articles.

Credentials

Education

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

Experience

- **Phakwe Power**
Advised Phakwe Power in respect of the acquisition of 39% in the Witkop Solar Project in 2018.
- **Central Energy Fund**
Advised the Central Energy Fund in respect of the acquisition of equity in the Redstone Concentrated Solar Project in 2018.

Contact Tessa

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[Tessa on LinkedIn](#)

Expertise

[Corporate & Commercial Law](#)

[Agriculture, Aquaculture & Fishing](#)

[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)

[Projects & Energy](#)

[The Companies Act](#)

[Corporate Governance](#)

Location

Cape Town

Language

English

- **Intikon Energy (Pty) Ltd**

Advised the shareholders of Intikon Energy (Pty) Ltd, which owns interest in the Lesedi, Letsatsi and Jasper solar PV projects, on the disposal of Intikon to Tri-Alpha (2015-2018).

- **Slimsun and Slimsun Too**

Advised Slimsun and Slimsun Too in respect of submission of bids in Rounds 1 and 2 of the renewable energy IPP Procurement Programme.

- **EDPR**

Advised EDPR in respect of submission of bids in Round 3 of the renewable energy IPP Procurement Programme.

- **Africa Clean Energy Developments**

Advisor to Africa Clean Energy Developments on a number of Round 1, 2 and 3 projects including the Cookhouse Wind Farm project.

- **AFPOC**

Advised AFPOC shareholders in respect of disposal of shares in AFPOC to Inspired Evolution.

- **New Symphony Energy**

Advised New Symphony Energy in respect of the various projects submitted pursuant to the Small IPP Procurement Programme.

- **Southern Energy**

Advised Southern Energy in respect of commercial aspects of 660MW coal-fired power station in Zimbabwe.

- **Aurora Power Solutions**

Advised Aurora Power Solutions in respect of the installation and lease of solar PV panels on commercial and residential buildings.

- **Windlab Systems Pty Ltd**

Advised Windlab Systems Pty Ltd in respect of the land use agreements for a wind farm situated near Bedford in the Eastern Cape, South Africa pursuant to the Department of Energy's renewable energy IPP Procurement Programme.

- **Mergers and acquisitions**

Advised on, structured and negotiated numerous mergers and acquisitions, complex due diligence investigations, downstream private equity transactions, joint ventures and corporate restructures including advising on share sale agreements, sale of business agreements, shareholders agreements, MOIs, option agreements, funding and security agreements, restraint of trade undertakings and advising on various commercial arrangements relating to renewable energy projects.

- **Distell**

Advised Distell in respect of the acquisition of Poison City Brewery in 2018. Advised Distell in respect of the acquisition of Best Global Brands which carries on business in Angola, Nigeria, Kenya and elsewhere in Africa and lead the due diligence investigation process, in 2017. Advised Distell in respect of a joint venture in the USA in 2016.

- **EnviroServ**

Advised to EnviroServ on the Vissershok Landfill site notarial lease in 2017.

- **Fruit and Veg City**

Advised Fruit and Veg City on the acquisition of the Glen Aire Butcheries and lead the due diligence investigation process in 2016.

- **Dentsu Aegis Network**

Advised the Dentsu Aegis Network on the acquisition of media businesses in South Africa, Ghana, Uganda and Tanzania and lead the due diligence investigation process, in 2016.

- **Takealot**

Advised Takealot in respect of a capital raise in 2016. Advised Takealot on the acquisition of Kalahari and lead the due diligence investigation process in 2015. Advised Takealot on the acquisition of Superbalist and lead the due diligence investigation process in 2015. Advised Takealot on the acquisition of Mr Delivery.

- **ABAX Investments**

Advised ABAX Investments Proprietary Limited on investment by Affiliated Managers Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation in 2015.

- **OneLogix**

Advising OneLogix in respect of a number of acquisitions and joint ventures.

- **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.

- **Independent News and Media Plc**

Member of the team that advised Independent News and Media Plc. in respect of its disposal of Independent News and Media South Africa in 2014

- **Médecins Sans Frontières**

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

News

[Surviving the impact of the electricity crisis on food production](#)

Persistent loadshedding continues to pose a significant threat to South Africa's food supply chain and agricultural production. Unforeseen power cuts affect irrigation schedules, heating, fruit and wine processing, milling, bakeries, abattoirs, cold chain logistic and exports. Extreme bouts of rotational power cuts and sporadic changes to the loadshedding stages, have in certain instances resulted in farms and processors having to discard their produce, with farmers reporting losses of between 30% to 50%. The frustration within the agricultural sector is driving farmers and agri-processors to find new solutions to mitigate their losses and manage their risk.

[Two new renewables bid windows signal revised hope for solving South Africa's energy crisis](#)

On 14 December 2023, the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) released a request for qualification and proposals (RFP) under the seventh bid submission phase (Bid Window 7) of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme (REIPPPP), and the DMRE also launched the second bid window (Bid Window 2) for the Battery Energy Storage Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme (BESIPPPP).

[Update on Interim Grid Capacity Allocation Rules: Eskom clarifies guarantee requirements](#)

On 3 November 2023, Eskom hosted a presentation to update industry on the implementation of the Interim Grid Capacity Allocation Rules (IGCAR). As discussed in our previous alert, the IGCAR were first released in June 2023, shifting the grid capacity allocation process from a 'first come, first served' approach to a new regime based on a 'first-ready, first served' principle.

[Eskom's grid allocation rules: On your marks, ready, set, halt!](#)

The national grid, which facilitates the conveyance of electricity between points of generation and offtake, is a pivotal piece of South Africa's energy infrastructure. Owing to the country's historical reliance on coal as a main energy generation resource, the development and upkeep of the national grid was primarily centred around Eskom's coal fleet in Mpumalanga, with little attention paid to implementing the same level of upkeep in other areas of the country where renewable energy resources are most concentrated.

[International Comparative Legal Guide: Renewable Energy 2024](#)

Tessa Brewis, Margo-Ann Werner, Jerome Brink, and Alecia Pienaar have made written contribution to the South Africa chapter in the fourth edition of the ICLG: Renewable Energy 2024 publication.

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

- Market recognition
 - The Legal 500 EMEA 2021-2024 recommended Tessa for Projects & Infrastructure.
 - IFLR1000 2022 recommended Tessa as a highly regarded practitioner for Project Development.